



ESTABLISHED 1859.

PRINCIPAL OFFICE, 42 CANNON STREET, LONDON, E.C.

BRANCH OFFICE:

NORMANBY CHAMBERS, MELBOURNE.

Published every Saturday.

Subscription 10s. per year, payable in advance;  
commencing from any date.

Post free to every country in the world. Single copies, 4d. each.

Supplied only to persons connected with the Trade.

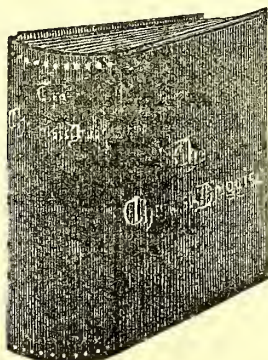
For Australasian subscribers the subsidiary journal THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OF AUSTRALASIA is included.

## Literary Contents.

PAGE	PAGE
A Chemist's Holiday in Mysore .....	French Pharmaceutical News .. 677
By David Hooper .....	Gazette .....
At the Counter .....	Indian Statistics .....
A Week in a Drug Store .....	Leaderettes .....
Bankruptcy Reports .....	Legal Reports .....
British and Foreign Consuls' .....	Metropolitan Reports .....
Reports .....	New Companies .....
Chemists' Assistants' Association .....	Notes of Novelties .....
tion .....	Obituary .....
Corner for Students .....	Provincial Associations and .....
Correspondence:—	their Work .....
Board of Health Mixture;	Provincial Reports .....
The Irish Pharmacy Act .....	The Periodic Law. By J. H.
Co-operation; Dispensing .....	Worrall, F.C.S. ....
Notes .....	Trade Marks Applied for .....
Legal Queries .....	Trade Notes .....
Miscellaneous Inquiries .....	Trade Report:—
Editorial Notes:—	London .....
Concentration in Medicines .....	American Cablegram .....
The North British Branch .....	Amsterdam .....
Saturday Review on Quack .....	
Medicines .....	

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OF AUSTRALASIA, published monthly at our Melbourne office, can be supplied to subscribers outside Australasia at 5s. per annum, payable in advance, and commencing at any date. Chemists interested in the drug trade and the pharmaceutical affairs of the Australasian Colonies will find a full record of all events affecting their occupation in *The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia*. Single copies can be supplied at 6d. each. Application should be made by English or American subscribers to the office at 42 Cannon Street, London.

THE reading cases which we offer to subscribers are now used by a very large number of chemists, and are found very convenient. They keep together thirteen numbers in very tidy form, always ready for reference. By having two cases in hand the numbers of a complete volume are always available until the time comes for binding. We sell these cases at the office for 1s., or by parcels post 1s. 3d., or two for 2s. 3d. We cannot forward them to any house for enclosure, nor by any of the carriers, as in the latter case we have to pay for booking.



THE General Medical Council met this week, and had under consideration, amongst other matters, the case of Mr. Partridge, the advertising dentist, who recently defeated the Council in the law courts, and the question of unqualified medical assistants.

OUR students' prizes this month go to Walsall and Nottingham respectively. We announce on page 658 a new analytical competition, and shall be glad to receive a goodly number of applications.

MR. DAVID HOOPER, the quinologist for the Government of Madras, sends us an interesting account of his observations in Mysore during a holiday.

A WEEK'S experience in a drug-store furnishes a contributor with a subject in which chemists take a keen interest.

THE POISON CUPBOARD is not so full this week as it was last; but it contains one case of poisoning with carbolic acid, one with cyanide of potassium, one with phosphorus paste, and several cases of laudanum poisoning, amongst the latter being that of a young chemist, who swallowed 2 oz.

SEVERAL legal cases of considerable interest are reported this week. The Sanitas Company have failed to get permission to register the word "Sanitas" as their trade-mark in Class 3 (medical and pharmaceutical preparations); but it is made clear that they retain, notwithstanding, their common law right against imitations. The action at Sheffield, brought by the Veterinary Medicine Manufacturing Company, and defended by tradesmen at Liverpool, Manchester, and elsewhere, who allege that they signed orders on the understanding that they were to have the goods on sale or return, has been further heard, and judgment is postponed. Colman's mustard has been again attacked at Wigton, and Somerset House is to be called upon for another analysis. Jewsbury & Brown have asserted their right to their trade-mark in soda-water at Manchester. For forging a false character for himself a chemist's assistant has been fined 20l. at Derby, with the option of three months with hard labour instead.

AMONG bankruptcies we report the final arrangement in the case of David Taylor & Sons, and a summary of the Official Receiver's observations in the case of F. Thomae. We also give the Registrar's decision in *re S. Bradbury*, once a manufacturer of sheep-dip.

In Mincing Lane quinine has been the chief topic of the week, a considerable advance having been established. Opium and morphia are tending slightly downwards. The boom in copper has affected the sulphate. Cod-liver oil is now being bought, and is firm.

## DIARY FOR NEXT WEEK.

Secretaries of societies are requested to send early information of approaching meetings.

Wednesday, November 30.

Society of Arts at 8 P.M.—Mr. J. B. Hannay on "Economic Illumination from Waste Oils."

Thursday, December 1.

Chemical Society, at 8 P.M.—Ballot for the election of Fellows (important); Professor Dunstan and T. S. Dymond on "The Supposed Third Nitroethane"; and Professor H. E. Armstrong, F.R.S., on "Researches on the Laws of Substitution in the Naphthalene Series."

Linnean Society of London, at 8 P.M.—Sir John Lubbock on "Ants, Bees, and Wasps" (Part II.); and Mr. R. J. Pocock on "Myriopoda of Mergui Archipelago."



# CORNER FOR STUDENTS.

CONDUCTED BY RICHARD J. MOSS, F.C.S.

## QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS.

A MIXTURE of two salts will be the subject of the next exercise in quantitative analysis. It is to be examined for all the ordinary metallic and acid radicles. Not only are its constituents to be detected—all other substances must be shown to be absent. In reporting students are to give a brief account of the analysis, with a summary of the results obtained, distinguishing as far as possible any accidental impurities which may be detected from the chief constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture should be sent in before Saturday, December 3; the samples will be forwarded to applicants a few days later.

Students' reports will be received up to December 20.

## REPORTS.

The heavy white powder which was distributed for analysis last month consisted of equal parts of lead chloride and mercurous chloride, or calomel, and its calculated composition was:—

Hg	..	..	..	..	..	..	42.45
Pb	..	..	..	..	..	..	37.25
Cl	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.30
							100.00

This analysis was chiefly designed to test the skill of our correspondents in the detection of the heavy metals by simple blowpipe tests. There were two salts, easily separable by heat, each capable of being reduced to the metallic state by a very simple operation. Lead compounds yield a bead soft enough to take an impression from the nail, and very malleable.

Another characteristic feature of the lead bead is the streak it makes upon paper. The mercurial compound in this mixture was volatile without decomposition, but mixed with sodium carbonate and heated, decomposition took place, and the volatilised mercury condensed on the sides of the tube. The sublimate is very characteristic, as it consists of metallic globules of the only metal that is fluid at ordinary temperatures. If the globules are not distinctly visible, they may be made to coalesce into larger globules by gently rubbing the sublimate with a piece of wire or a chip of wood. The great advantages of these tests are the short time they occupy, and the small quantity of material that is required. Those who were fortunate enough to apply them successfully started the systematic analysis in the wet way with the knowledge that mercury and lead were present, and such a piece of information was a very material assistance.

## PRIZES.

The First Prize for the best analysis has been awarded to LEONARD SYDNEY TOMKYS, Mr. T. H. Tomkys, chemist, Brownhills, Walsall.

The Second Prize has been awarded to E. TURTON, Messrs. Mason & Radford, 10 Derby Road, Nottingham.

## Marks Awarded for Analyses.

L. S. Tomkys (1st prize)	..	95	W. R. B. ..	..	75
E. Turton (2nd prize)	..	92	L. A. Smith ..	..	73
J. O. Kidd ..	..	90	M. E. L. ..	..	70
H. D. Fuge ..	..	85	Saccharin ..	..	60
W. C. Marshall ..	..	85	Vril ..	..	60
Germanium ..	..	85	Carbo Ligni ..	..	50
E. W. Botherill ..	..	80	Cecil Leigh ..	..	40
Pecque ..	..	80	W. G. ..	..	0
F. J. L. ..	..	80			

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**Prizes.**—The students to whom prizes are awarded are requested to write at once to the Publisher, naming the book they select, and stating how they wish it forwarded.

Any scientific book that is published at a price not greatly exceeding half-a-guinea may be taken as a first prize.

Any scientific book which is sold for about five shillings may be taken as second prize.

\* \* All communications should include the names and addresses of the writers.

L. S. TOMKYS.—Your results were accurate, and your report is drawn up in a very clear and intelligible form.

H. D. FUGE.—You forget that PbO is coloured and the mixture was white; moreover, the lead salt was completely removed by treatment with hot water.

GERMANIUM.—There is nothing in your analysis to show that ammonium chloride was not present. Your examination for the acid was very incomplete.

PECQUE.—You showed most conclusively that lead, mercury, and chlorine were present, but you certainly did not succeed in proving that these were the only constituents of the mixture. A mixture of two salts may contain more than two metals, and more than two acid radicles.

F. J. L.—You omitted to prove the absence of quite a considerable number of metals and acid radicles. See remarks to "Pecque."

W. R. B.—The effect of heating the mixture was very unlike charring, and no odour at all resembling that evolved by a citrate was observed when the mixture was heated.

L. A. SMITH.—On heating the powder in a bulb tube with sodium carbonate you observed a sublimate in the form of a metallic mirror, and from this you inferred that mercury was probably present. The appearance of metallic mercury is so characteristic that you ought to be able to identify it with absolute certainty. Sometimes the globules cannot at once be distinguished, but on gently rubbing the sublimate the finely-divided mercury coalesces into globules, which can be readily distinguished.

M. E. L.—The flame coloration which you observed was due chiefly to lead; it was more blue than violet.

SACCHARIN.—Metallic lead was obtained before the blowpipe with the greatest ease. You do not state that a blank experiment showed your reagents to be free from arsenic, a condition which must be ensured in applying any of the very delicate tests for that element so commonly resorted to.

CARBO LIGNI.—There is little excuse for your failure to obtain a sublimate of mercury in the preliminary examination. You ought to experiment with some mercurial compounds until you can command success in this important test. You will find it interesting to determine what is the smallest quantity of mercury that you can detect by reduction and sublimation.

C. LEIGH.—Your analysis was certainly rather incomplete. Although there were but two salts present, there might be more than two metals. Under any circumstances you are asked to prove the absence of other metals and acid radicles by analytical means. The only way to make your analysis complete is to assume that all the metals and acid radicles are present until you have shown by experiment that certain of them are absent.

W. G.—It is difficult to believe that the results you describe were obtained with a mixture of the above composition. It will repay you to repeat the experiments with a mixture of similar composition, which you can easily prepare; and knowing the results you ought to obtain, you will, doubtless, find out the cause of your former errors.

APOHAQUI WATER.—A mineral spring has been discovered at Apohaqui station, on the Intercolonial Railway, Canada. It resembles Vichy water in chemical composition. 100,000 parts of water contained, according to Mr. Best, Government analyst of St. John, N.B., the following constituents:—

Potassium sulphate	..	..	..	..	50
" chloride	..	..	..	..	1.08
Calcium carbonate	..	..	..	..	1.25
Sodium chloride	..	..	..	..	76.06
Sodium bicarbonate	..	..	..	..	201.60
Magnesium and iron	..	..	..	..	Traces
Silica	..	..	..	..	.90
Organic matter	..	..	..	..	Traces
					281.83

A CHILD in Toronto swallowed 2 drachms of common insect-powder, and tetanic symptoms with coma followed. Death, however, was averted. Such symptoms as these are rare, and show that the various species of pyrethrum are not quite free from toxic properties.

## Metropolitan Reports.

MR. BURGESS, of Faubert Place, Regent Street, has reopened the business of the late Mr. Potter, of Paddington Green.

MR. GEORGE LAPHORN, pharmaceutical chemist, late with Messrs. Wilcox & Co., of Oxford Street, W., has purchased the business of Mr. G. R. Warren, 79 Abbey Road, St. John's Wood.

A LADY DOCTOR.—Miss Julia Cock has been appointed medical examiner to the Post Office Life Insurance for women proposers in the Metropolitan district. This is a substantial recognition of the claims of the fair sex.

ATTEMPT TO POISON A CHILD.—At the West Ham Police Court on November 23, Mary Ann Mulroy, thirty, described as a domestic servant, of no home, was charged, on remand, with attempting to poison her male child, George Mulroy, aged three weeks, by administering phosphorus to it. Dr. Gragono, of The Grove, Stratford, who was the principal witness, stated that when he was about to enter his house he saw the prisoner and another woman in the area with the child, which was crying. His suspicions were aroused, and he got a policeman to take the prisoner and her child to the station, where he found that some phosphorus had been given to the baby, whose mouth was quite luminous with it. Part of a bottle of phosphorus paste was afterwards found in the area. The child suffered from spasms, but was now recovering. The prisoner was remanded.

## Provincial Reports.

*Items of news, and newspapers containing matters of interest to the trade, sent to the Editor, will much oblige.*

### BARNESLEY.

ALTERED CIRCUMSTANCES.—At the Barnsley County Court on November 17 Joe Hawcroft applied that an instalment which William Edwards, bicycle agent and medicine vendor, of Peel Street, Barnsley, was paying on account of a debt owing to the applicant, should be increased from 2s. a month to 20s. a month, the defendant being now in a much better way of business than he was when the order was made. Mr. Hawcroft's solicitor produced a bill announcing a guessing contest for 35%, provided by the defendant, who also paid 50% a year rent. Defendant said that, although he had received a legacy of 90l. in March last under somebody's will, he owed 400l., and had borrowed 50l. on the faith of the money which was coming to him. He also had to pay other five instalments of 2s. per month each on account of other court orders. After commenting severely on the defendant's conduct, Judge Bedwell made an order that all the six instalments should be doubled, from 2s. to 4s. each per month.

### BELFAST.

BELFAST AND NORTH OF IRELAND CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' ASSOCIATION.—The deputation which waited on the Pharmaceutical Council at Dublin on November 2 have reported to this association, and a sub-committee has been appointed to consider the suggested amendment to the Pharmacy Act of 1875, and also to prepare a reply to the Pharmaceutical Council, explaining what would meet the wants of the chemists and druggists.

### BIRMINGHAM.

MR. LAWSON TAIT has been appointed Professor of Gynecology in Queen's College, Birmingham, Dr. John Clay continuing to lecture on midwifery.

ROBBING A CHEMIST.—A boy of twelve was charged at the local court last week with stealing three bottles of drugs from the shop of Mr. Arblaster, chemist, New Street, and

was remanded, the only evidence against him being that of a street urchin, who alleged that prisoner had stolen papers from him, so that he acted as detective on this occasion.

THE charge against Mr. Davis (Pronk, Davis & Co., London) of inciting a man in the employment of Messrs. Barouche & Co., chemical manufacturers, of Colmore Row, to steal a bottle of phosphine from his employers, was again gone into by the local magistrates, Mr. Davis surrendering to his bail. The evidence went to show that a trap had been laid for Mr. Davis, and the magistrate, in dismissing the case, stated that the charge had not been made out.

### BUXTON.

AN OVERDOSE OF AMMONIA.—On Saturday night a Miss Fagan, who lives at Fairfield here, took an overdose of spirits of ammonia to ease suffering caused by a severe cold, and her throat and mouth were badly burnt. With great presence of mind she ran to a doctor's, and an emetic was successfully administered. She is now rapidly recovering from the effects of the burning.

### CHESTER.

SUPPOSED CASE OF POISONING.—On Friday, November 18 Dr. Churton, coroner, Chester, held an inquest on the body of a well-dressed gentleman, who was discovered lying in a field on a farm at Backford, near Chester. Alongside him was found a bottle which had contained cyanide of potassium, and which was labelled "Poison: Photographic Artists' Stores, 43 Charterhouse Square, London." There was no evidence of identification, and the inquiry was adjourned until Tuesday to allow of post-mortem examination. Dr. Hamilton then deposed that death had resulted from poisoning by cyanide of potassium, and a verdict was returned accordingly.

### CORK.

THE CHARGE AGAINST DR. CROSS.—In the Queen's Bench Dublin, on Monday, counsel on behalf of Dr. Cross, who stands committed for trial at Cork Assizes for the murder of his wife by poisoning her with arsenic, applied for a conditional order to change the venue of trial to whatever other assize district the court might approve of. It was submitted that, owing to the feeling against Dr. Cross in his own neighbourhood, a fair trial could not be obtained in Cork. A conditional order was granted, and will be argued in due course.

### DERBY.

AN ASSISTANT'S CHARACTER.—At the Police Court on Monday, Walter Walters, a man of respectable appearance, but with several aliases, was charged with using a false character to obtain a situation as assistant to Mr. Henry Monkhouse, chemist and druggist, of All Saints, Derby. The prisoner's application and forged character were both addressed from Kirby Bain, Lincolnshire. He gave his employer's name as Walter Stafford, of that place, and took means to secure the delivery of any letters so addressed to himself. When Mr. Monkhouse wrote for a character, prisoner, in disguised handwriting, recommended himself as very honest, sober, and industrious, and thorough master of his business. He now said he was married to an actress, and had lost different situations through following her about the country. He was with Mr. Monkhouse for four months, when he absconded with some money he had obtained from his employer. The chief constable said the prisoner had just come out of Nottingham Gaol after serving 21 days for theft, and was wanted on other charges at Liverpool and London. Accused was fined 20l., or three months' hard labour in default.

### HASTINGS.

A HOMOEOPATHIC EXCUSE.—At the Borough Court last week, William Lancaster was charged with entering the premises of Mr. E. H. Hasselby, chemist and druggist, of 1 Eversfield Place, St. Leonard's, without being able to say why he did so. From the evidence of Mr. Harold Dunn, an



assistant to Mr. Hasselby, and others, it appeared that the prisoner was found in the hall of the house adjoining the shop, where there were coats, hats, &c. He had entered without ringing the bell, and stated that he wished to see the principal regarding some homeopaths. He had been recommended to the place from a homeopathic institution, but refused to tell Mr. Hasselby what his business was. He had in his possession a begging letter, some references to situations he had held, and a discharge from Rainhill Lunatic Asylum, where he had been detained from November, 1885, to May, 1887. The bench, while considering prisoner's conduct suspicious, discharged him with a warning.

#### LIVERPOOL.

**CARBOLIC-ACID POISONING.**—On Tuesday an inquest was held at Liverpool on the body of a man named John Waugh, who died on Monday through drinking carbolie acid. A verdict of "Suicide" was returned.

**IS CHEWING-GUM FOOD?**—It was argued by a solicitor at a local police court on Wednesday that it is not. His client had sold chewing-gum containing 9 per cent. of solid paraffin, and he was prosecuted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act for doing so. The Bench decided the matter by inflicting a penalty of 10s. and costs, refusing a case for appeal.

**THE BAD PEPPER.**—The grinders of the pepper which Dr. Campbell Brown stated last week to contain putrescent matter now allege that the analyst's collector who bought the sample had carried it in a leather bag which had contained rancid butter and other strong-smelling stuffs. This seems a likely explanation of the discrepancy between the opinions of the analysts.

**GOOD FOR ESSENCE OF BEEF.**—At a meeting of the Liverpool Workhouse Committee held last week, some discussion took place as to the meat supply, it being stated that frozen meat would not make good beef tea, and, consequently, a considerable sum was expended in essence of beef. Mr. Hagger, the vestry clerk, pointed out that the saving on the cost of the frozen beef as compared with fresh beef would be very considerable, and would go a long way to cover the extra cost of poultry and essence of beef.

**A CHEMIST CONVICTED OF INDECENT ASSAULT.**—At the Liverpool Assizes last Saturday John Moore, aged fifty, chemist and druggist, was charged with having indecently assaulted several little girls at various dates in July and August last. He was indicted in respect of seven different girls, but the prosecution elected to proceed first with the case of a child named Isabella Burgess, aged ten, upon whom it was alleged the prisoner had committed the complete offence. It was stated on behalf of the prosecution that the prisoner kept a shop at the corner of Beaufort Street and Warwick Street, Liverpool. In the shop was a partition behind which the medicines were compounded. On August 5 the girl Burgess and a companion went to the shop on some errand. The prisoner sent the other girl to get some beer, and then, taking Burgess behind the partition, he assaulted her. After hearing the evidence, Justice Day stated that it was not sufficient to enable a conviction for the full offence to be sustained, and the prisoner was found guilty of the attempt only. The prisoner pleaded guilty to another indictment, and evidence was not given on the remainder. His Lordship, in passing sentence, said this was one of the very worst cases he had ever had before him. The prisoner might be said to have escaped the hands of justice. He had used his shop as a decoy place for a number of poor little girls—he (his lordship) did not know how many—but there were some seven or eight little girls who had charged him with having enticed them into his shop and subjected them to his filthy, loathsome treatment. Had the prisoner been convicted of the full offence he would have hesitated in preventing such a dangerous animal—it was an injustice to the brute creation to call the prisoner by that name—from seeing the outside of a jail again, for he would have sent him to penal servitude for the period of his natural life. His lordship then sentenced the prisoner to two years' imprisonment, with hard labour, remarking that he could not do him justice, but he sentenced him readily to as long an imprisonment as he could give him.

#### MANCHESTER.

**THE CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY**, whose sales to co-operative stores during the quarter ending September 24 amounted to no less than 1,529,994<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>., made during that period a profit of 182<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lls. 2d. from soap, 3,754<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> worth of which was produced at their works at Durham. The total profits for the quarter amounted to 14,785 lls. 5d. Evidently co-operation is in a healthy condition.

**THE INSURANCE FRAUDS.**—Joseph Armstrong, insurance agent, and Owen Gilmore, medical assistant, both of Manchester, were charged at the Liverpool Assizes on November 18, for conspiring to defraud the Guardian Life Assurance and Scottish Life Assurance Company. The circumstances of the case were that the prisoners effected two insurances of 1,000<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> each on the life of a Mrs. Casey, wife of Dr. Casey, and submitted to the medical officers of the companies another woman, an "unfortunate," named Saville, who cleaned out Armstrong's offices. Mrs. Casey is at present hopelessly ill from uterine cancer, whereas Saville is a perfectly healthy woman. Dr. Casey happened to have some business with the Caledonian Insurance Company, and while at their offices the policy on his wife's life (of which he was entirely ignorant) was mentioned to him; hence the discovery. The jury found the prisoners guilty, and Justice Day sentenced Armstrong to five years' imprisonment, and Gilmore to six months. The latter was Armstrong's clerk.

**JEWSBURY & BROWN'S TRADE-MARK.**—In the Chancery of Lancaster on Wednesday, before Vice-Chancellor Sir H. F. Bristowe, Q.C., the case of Brown v. Cummins was heard. Mr. Maberly, who appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. W. S. Brown, who trades under the style or firm of Messrs. Jewsbury & Brown, soda-water manufacturers, in Manchester, asked for an interim injunction against Mr. Michael Cummins, soda-water manufacturer, Upper Brook Street, Manchester, to restrain him from using on his soda-water bottles a label which the plaintiff alleged was a colourable imitation of the label used for forty years by the plaintiff's firm, and registered as their trade-mark. Mr. Maberly said the defendant, who was the owner of a number of public-houses, formerly obtained his supplies of soda-water from the plaintiff, but several years ago he began himself to manufacture soda-water, making use of the label complained of. That circumstance had not come to the plaintiff's knowledge until October last. The defendant's label was not exactly similar to that of the plaintiff's, but the resemblance was close enough to deceive anybody who did not see the labels together. Mr. Hopkinson, who appeared for the defendant, remarked that his client was not now making soda-water for the general public, and a label was of very little consequence to him. Subsequently the defendant submitted to an injunction and a decree not to use the mark any further. The question of costs was left to the Vice-Chancellor, who is to give his decision shortly.

#### NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

**USEFUL LECTURES.**—At the Newcastle Eye Infirmary on Monday, Mr. Jeaffreson gave an interesting demonstration to some of the foremen of Messrs. Allhusen's Chemical Works upon first aid to those suffering from injuries to the eye, with special reference to the accidents likely to occur from caustic soda. The demonstration was much appreciated, and it is proposed to extend the course, also to admit other workmen to them.

#### NORTHAMPTON.

**THEFT FROM CHEMISTS.**—At the Northampton Police Court, on Wednesday, Thomas Payne, clerk, formerly in the employ of Messrs. J. H. Blunt & Co., chemists and wholesale oilmen, of Northampton and Birmingham, was charged with stealing from the warehouse of his employers a bag of sumach, value 2ls., on November 2; also seven bottles of perfume, two bottles of pomade, and two combs, of the total value of 12s. 6d., during the last two months; also with embezzling the sum of 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> lls. 6d. on October 3 last. As the prisoner pleaded guilty, by the advice of his solicitor, the prosecutors did not press the charge. Mr. G. J. Phillips, for the defence, said the case was a very painful one. The prisoner had been in straitened circumstances, and being a



cripple had had a rough time of it. He was a man of respectable connection, the son of a Christian minister, and felt his position most acutely. He pleaded that the justice of the case might be met with a fine. The Court imposed a sentence of twenty-one days' hard labour.

#### OAKHAM.

**ARSENIC OR BAD MEAT.**—Last week the family of a labouring man in the employ of Mr. Hatton Finch, M.P., were seized with symptoms of poisoning, and one child died. The father had purchased some meat which was "high" when obtained, yet lasted the family for a week. This was supposed to be the cause of the symptoms, and speaking of this at the inquest, Mr. A. C. Brett Jones, a surgeon's assistant at Oakshaw, said he could assign no reason for the enteritis which was the immediate cause of death. It might be caused by meat in an advanced state of decomposition. Arsenic might cause the symptoms. He had never seen a case, however, of arsenical poisoning. The jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

#### RETFORD.

**TWO THOUSAND RATS KILLED.**—The Old Grove Kennels, Retford, where Lord Galway's famous pack of foxhounds was kept, having just been let, the landlord directed his keeper to exterminate the rats which infested the kennels, before the tenant entered on occupation. Accordingly the keeper set to work, fed the rats well for three days, then gave them poison. Result—over 2,000 dead rats collected next day!

#### SHEFFIELD.

**THERE** is a keen competition for the post of medical officer of health for the borough, vacated by Dr. Sinclair White, there being nearly forty applicants.

**THE SALE OF VACCINE TUBES.**—The *Sheffield Daily Telegraph* says:—"Six hundred vaccine tubes a week are not accounted of in a certain chemist's shop, where, it is said, the sale in six days reached the enormous total of three thousand."

**BAD GLASS.**—On Monday Mr. Wightman, coroner, held an inquest on the body of James Henry Hart, aged two years, who died from the effects of a cut from a ginger-beer bottle. It was stated that the bottle burst whilst in the hands of the shopwoman who sold it; a piece of the glass struck deceased in the neck, cutting the jugular vein, and death resulted from hemorrhage. The bottle was an ordinary champagne one.

**UNQUALIFIED MEDICAL ASSISTANTS.**—At an inquest held last week on the body of a child who had died from the effects of diarrhoea and convulsions, the mother of the child stated that she had called in Mr. C. A. Ridal, surgeon, but a gentleman who was not Mr. Ridal attended, and gave her a certificate of death when the child died. This gentleman turned out to be a Mr. Allen, who was in court and gave evidence, stating that, under the pressure of work, he had given the certificate thinking that the child was another one, who had been seen by his master. Mr. Ridal also gave evidence. He admitted that Mr. Allen was unqualified. The Coroner explained that the inquiry had arisen through the registrar refusing to accept the certificate. He approved of this action, and remarked that it was a gross irregularity to give death certificates in this manner, and there was a grave dereliction of duty on somebody's part.

**MESSRS. JACOBS & CO.'S CASES.**—The case of Messrs. Jacobs & Co., of Sheffield, trading as the "Veterinary Patent Medicine Manufacturing Company," against Mr. A. Russell, grocer and provision dealer, 95 St. Ann's Street, Liverpool, for medicines supplied, came before the judge of the Sheffield County Court on Friday, November 18. Mr. A. M. Wilson appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Ellison (instructed by Messrs. Masters & Rogers, solicitors, Liverpool) was for the defendant. The case, of which we have previously given particulars, was opened on August 24, when evidence of an order having been given to Mr. Markham, traveller for the company, was adduced. The goods were returned, and the defendant was summoned for their value. On October 14 Mr. Ellison went into the defence, and called the defendant,

his wife, and other tradesmen at Liverpool, Manchester, and elsewhere, to prove the circumstances under which they had been induced to accept the agencies. There was a great similarity in the experience of them all. Briefly, it was that Markham would enter a shop and ask the owner to accept the sole agency of his goods for that district, at the same time assuring him that they were in ever-increasing demand, and there was no risk, and what was not sold could be returned. Under pretence of obtaining the correct name, business, and address, Markham would ask them to fill up a form, only subsequently to discover that they had signed an order. They, regarding themselves as agents, returned the goods. The plaintiffs sought to treat them as customers, and sued for the value of the goods. Thereupon a number of the defendants combined to fight the matter out, and the present case was a test one. He then called James Noble, 79 Myrtle Street, Liverpool, green-grocer (lately manager for Joseph Hamilton, a provision dealer at 158 Prescott Street, Fairfield), John Dexter, poulterer and fish-dealer, Great Ancote Street, Manchester, George Gee, herbalist, 81 Mill Street, Liverpool, and James Yorke, blacksmith, Malton, who deposed as to how orders were taken from them. The evidence showed that the impression was, when the order-form was signed, that this was only wanted for the correct name and address, which were to be placed on the bills. All were to be "sole agents" for their districts. Mr. A. Muir Wilson, for the plaintiffs, contended, from facts to which he alluded, that the defendant and the other people were purchasers of the goods in the ordinary sense of the term, and that they were in no sense agents. He admitted that the traveller might have unduly puffed his goods, but that was all. Judgment was deferred.

#### STOKE-ON-TRENT.

**MILK ADULTERATION.**—A farmer, who has been previously convicted of the same offence, was fined 8*l.*, and 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* costs, for selling milk adulterated with 13 per cent. of water.

#### WHITEHAVEN.

**A CHEMIST POISONED.**—On November 18 Mr. Lumb, coroner, held an inquest at Whitehaven, on the body of George Muncaster Gass, aged twenty-three, who was in business as a chemist and druggist in King Street, Whitehaven. The deceased had some drink on the previous night, and told his sister he was to take a sleeping draught, as he feared that he would not sleep. He had a measure containing about 2 oz. of laudanum, and on going to bed he drank it off, saying, "Good health," to his younger brother, who was in bed. He had been in bed some hours when it was discovered that he was dead. The jury returned a verdict of "Death by misadventure."

#### WIGTON.

**COLMAN'S MUSTARD.**—At the Wigton (Cumberland) Police Court on November 19, John Crozier, grocer, Kirkbride, was charged with selling  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb. of adulterated mustard, which, according to the analyst's certificate, contained 70 per cent. of mustard and 30 per cent. of farina in the form of potato starch. Sergeant Slee proved the purchase. The mustard was contained in a tin. Asked if he had noticed the following words on the tin, "This preparation is sold as an admixture of pure mustard with farina and choice condiments," witness replied that he did not read the label. Dr. Montgomery, Whitehaven, the analyst for the county of Cumberland, detailed the results of his examination of the sample. Cross-examined by Mr. Kennett (who appeared for Messrs. Colman & Co.), he said he discovered the potato starch by means of the microscope, also by extracting the oil from the sample. He got about 17 per cent., whereas from 30 to 33 per cent. of oil was usually found in mustard, but the quantity varied. He could distinguish between wheat starch and potato starch. Mr. Kennett said he had two answers to the charge. In the first place, the article was sold with a label; and, in the second, he submitted that the mustard was a genuine article of commerce. There was not a particle of potato starch in



it. The mustard was known as "double superfine," and was the very best that was manufactured. He then called Mr. Francis Sutton, F.I.C., &c., who said he was the analyst of the county of Norfolk and of other places. He had had a very large experience of the analysis of mustard. He found the sample sent from Kirkbride consisted of a mixture of brown and white mustard to the extent of 90.5 per cent. The remainder was made up of wheaten flour, and also contained a small quantity of turmeric. There was no particle of potato starch in the mustard. He had never met with any mustard from any maker which was mixed with 30 per cent. of potato starch. At the request of Mr. Kennett the magistrates decided to send the reserve sample to Somerset House for analysis, and the case was adjourned.

## SCOTLAND

## EDINBURGH.

DR. ALEXANDER GUNN, surgeon, has removed from 18A Nicolson Street to large, handsome premises at 3 Nicolson Square.

THE ASSISTANTS' CONVERSAZIONE.—The tickets for the conversazione of the Junior Association are, we hear, going off well. The affair promises to be a success. One or two of the country members of the Scottish Executive have expressed their intention to be present.

THE UNOFFICIAL FORMULARY.—The next evening meeting of the North British Branch is to be taken up with a discussion on the B. P. C. Unofficial Formulary. Already several pharmacists have signified their willingness to contribute to the discussion. The date of the meeting has not been definitely fixed.

MATERIA MEDICA.—Of the specimens exhibited at the last evening meeting two deserve attention, viz., quassia turnings and Indian ipecacuanha. The turnings are obtained from wood that has not been "welled," or soaked, and infusion made from them is said not to have the musty taste peculiar to that prepared from the ordinary variety. The Indian ipecacuanha was the same specimen as Mr. Ransom worked upon for his recent note on the subject.

## ELGIN.

THE ELGIN CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' AND APPRENTICES' ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of this association was held in Abbey Place School on November 18. There was a good attendance of members, and Mr. A. Smith, president, occupied the chair. The minutes of several special and other meetings were read and confirmed. On the motion of the secretary, Mr. Peter MacEwan, of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, London, and Mr. James Watson, junr., Elgin, were elected honorary members of the association. A paper on "British Medicinal Plants" was read by Mr. A. G. Wilson. This proved very interesting and exhaustive, almost every plant possessing in any degree medicinal properties receiving at least a passing remark. The paper was of especial benefit to the younger members. A short discussion followed, which was taken part in by Messrs. Smith, McCulloch, Brander, and others. After a vote of thanks to Mr. Wilson the meeting terminated.

## GLASGOW.

POOR MILK.—At Greenock last week a farmer was fined 2*l.* and 10*s.* 6*d.* expenses for selling milk which contained 8½ per cent. of added water.

LAUDANUM-POISONING.—An army pensioner named Alexander Murray, seventy, was found dead in bed in a lodging-house at 41 Charlotte Street early last Saturday morning, with a bottle which had contained laudanum lying beside him.

KLEPTOMANIA AND OPIUM.—A lady, who was said to be the wife of a merchant in good position in Glasgow, was last week sentenced at Rothsay to a month's imprisonment for stealing. It was stated in her favour that she had been led to commit the thefts in order to gratify her appetite for opium, which she took in large quantities.

## LONDON CHEMISTS' ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING was held on Thursday evening, when twelve members came forward with short papers, this being the first time that the association has tried this excellent way of interesting their members and furthering practical observation amongst them.

The first thing done after the minutes were read was the reading of a letter from Mr. W. Baxter, jun., Bromley, in which he asked support for the Selborne Society. Then Mr. Dymond read a note on a new variety of catechu, in thin plates, which is imported from Malacca. This contained less catechin, but was more astringent than Rio cube gambier. Next followed Mr. Fraser McDiarmid, with notes on "The B.P.C. Formulary Preparations," the author's comments being generally of a condemnatory character, although he concluded that, on the whole, the formulæ are satisfactory and the products good. "The Estimation of Morphine in Opium" was the subject of a note by Mr. F. C. J. Bird, who suggested the use of different vessels from those recommended in the British Pharmacopœia. Mr. W. R. Dodd next read a discursive note on "The Fluid Extract of Cascara Sagrada." He showed that a mixture of glycerine (5), spirit (45), and water (50) is the best menstruum for exhausting the bark, and fractional percolation the best mode of operating. In "The Influence of Saccharin upon the action of some Ferments," Mr. E. J. Millard showed that in the action of pepsine the sweetening body exerts no interference; it retarded the action of pancreatine only in the case of starch; on diastase and papain it had no influence. Mr. Rushton followed with some hints on toothache. Mr. Butterfield, on "Dispensing Memoranda," stated that cascara sagrada pills, which are perhaps the most troublesome to keep in shape, keep perfectly when varnished. Trimethylamine hydrochloride makes a perfect pill with a mixture of powdered althæa and magnesia. He also recommended that infusion of *sepeptaria* (sometimes prescribed with *tr. iodi*) should always be made from old root, which contains no starch. Mr. Wybrant spoke of "Lin. Ammoniac," which he thought should be made with nut oil. He also proposed a modified process for making laudanum, and had the hardihood to make some remarks on "Lin. Terebinthina." The next paper read was on "Commercial Iodide of Sodium," by Mr. W. G. Blackham, who stated that this iodide is superseding the potassium salt on account of its less depressing after-effects, and he had been struck by the varying physical characters of the salt, some samples presenting a "dry, white crystalline" appearance, others being "white and crystalline," but decidedly not "dry." On one occasion, having to dispense some iodide of sodium with syrup of iodide of iron and water, he found from the resulting mixture that the former contained carbonate. He therefore examined six specimens of the salt obtained from different sources, and found that one sample contained 5 per cent. and another 6 per cent. of carbonate of sodium. Four packages of iodide were decidedly hydrous in appearance, from 7 to 10 per cent. of water being found. One specimen contained as much as 12 per cent. of water. He had been unable to obtain any iodide corresponding to the B.P. requirements. After pointing out how undesirable it is to dispense chemicals so impure as his results showed commercial iodide of sodium to be, Mr. Blackham concluded by saying that it was with great reluctance that he was forced to the conclusion that the impurity of commercial specimens is due to a direct admixture of carbonate, and that great negligence is displayed in sending out the article.

Mr. J. E. Fain then read a "Note on Coca," by Mr. W. Baxter, jun., describing the benefits, pains and penalties of eating the drug, and ascending mountains. Then followed a note by Mr. E. H. Farr on some abnormal flowers. Mr. Saul followed with some remarks based on our French correspondent's recent account of a pharmacist's difficulties in Algeria, and exhibited a specimen of mercurial ointment brought back from Suakim, which exactly resembled the Algerian specimen. Mr. Joseph Ince then showed a specimen, and described the properties of "Algin." The discussion on the papers was taken after the whole of them were read; it was lively while it lasted, and that was close upon to Friday morning.



## Legal Reports.

### THE SANITAS TRADE-MARK.

IN the Chancery Division of the High Court on November 18, before Mr. Justice Kay, Mr. Theodore Aston, Q.C. (Mr. Sebastian with him), applied on behalf of the Sanitas Company (Limited) for the direction of the Court, that, notwithstanding the decision of the Comptroller against the Sanitas Company, that company should be permitted to register as their trade-mark the word "Sanitas" for chemical substances prepared for use in medicine and pharmacy in class 3. The ground on which this application had been refused by the Comptroller was that there were already in that class two trade-marks containing the word "Sanitas." The first was that of Mr. George Augustus Bevan, and the second that of Messrs. Thompson & Capper. The first device was a garter with a lion in it, together with the letter B, with the letters G A inside it. Then the words "Sanitas, Felicitas, Morbus, Misera," which the learned counsel would not try to construe, were also comprised. Messrs. Thompson & Capper had registered a design with spiked ornaments—

His Lordship: Not a garter?

Mr. Aston: No, but concentric circles with a shield in the middle, and a hand grasping the two letters "T. & C.," and in the space were the words "Sanitas Sanitatum, omnia Sanitas."

His Lordship: Do you wish to register the word "Sanitas" alone?

Mr. Aston: Yes.

His Lordship: But surely that is not a fancy word; people understand the meaning of "Sanitas," if they do not the meaning of "Eureka."

The Attorney-General: I represent the Comptroller. I say the applicants are endeavouring to get the exclusive use of the word "Sanitas," which has already been twice registered; and it is not a fancy word, and, thirdly, that "Sanitas" is the applicant's own trade name, which cannot be registered, and that objection is fatal.

Mr. Aston said these were not the objections raised by the Comptroller.

His Lordship: I must hear every possible objection in the case.

Mr. Aston: I am very sorry to hear your Lordship say so. We are taken by surprise. I had hoped that in coming here to set aside the finding of an official, which he has recorded in express terms, that we should be limited to showing your Lordship that the findings of the Comptroller were not tenable.

His Lordship: That would be very convenient to me; but if any objection occurs to me must I not as a judge entertain it?

Mr. Aston continued: My point is a short and simple one. We have already registered the word "Sanitas" with regard to certain other classes, and we ask that the word, which is a trade-mark, should be also registered in class 3 as our trade-mark. We have for years been selling a variety of articles as "Sanitas" articles—oils, soaps, antiseptics, deodorants, &c.

His Lordship: If you have an old mark then you do not want to register. What is the meaning of "Sanitas"?

Mr. Aston: It is a fancy name.

His Lordship: Surely it means something to promote health. If you register in class 3 for medicine, you will say that "Sanitas" medicine is health-medicine, which is somewhat absurd, isn't it? As to its being a fancy name, since Lord Beaconsfield used it no one in this country is ignorant of it and its meaning.

Mr. Aston: The company sells "Sanitas" articles.

His Lordship: You must satisfy me that the word is a fancy word within the meaning of the Act, or, at all events, that it is so fanciful as to come within the meaning of the section of the Act.

Mr. Aston: All our articles are designated by the term "Sanitas," and in the trade "Sanitas" means the articles sold by this company.

His Lordship: Then you do not require to register, as you can prevent anyone from using this word.

Mr. Aston: That is our common-law right. By selling

articles in a great variety of shapes and forms as "Sanitas," the word itself acquires a secondary signification. Many words so acquire a secondary meaning. Take the word "Bath"; that is not always the name of a city or of a bath in which people bathe. There are Bath chaps and Bath buns.

His Lordship: How is the public to know that you register the word in its secondary signification?

Mr. Aston: People can see it.

His Lordship: You should put a note to that effect at least on the register.

Mr. Aston: I should be very happy to do that. A trade-mark is something used in the course of trade, and the question is how tradesmen come to regard it. It has to be considered with reference to locality, circumstances, &c., and so we come to learn when it is used in a secondary sense. Put the case of a hansom cab. In the first instance that meant a cab made by Hansom, but the word acquired a secondary sense, and now means a cab of a particular form.

His Lordship: I don't understand your argument. Do you say that any person could register a "Wellington" boot?

Mr. Aston: Yes, if made by John Jones.

His Lordship: A hansom cab means a particular shape of cab.

Mr. Aston: And if everybody knew that Peters or Hooper manufactured that cab, then the maker would be justified in asking to be allowed to register the name.

His Lordship: But "Sanitas" does not mean tooth-powders, emulsions, and the other articles which you sell.

Mr. Aston: Makers of these things have not objected to our use of the word in connection with these articles.

His Lordship: Then you need not register at all.

Mr. Aston: I am asking your Lordship to allow me to enforce my right.

His Lordship: Your argument comes to this—because I don't want to register, let me register.

Mr. Aston: Not quite. The trade has given a secondary meaning to a classical word, and when it is used as our customers use it, it is not used in its primary meaning as having something to do with health. Many words have come to be so used. For instance, "Opoponax"—an Indian word of which very few people who use it know the meaning. Now, with regard to the prior registration of these two marks by Mr. Bevan and Thompson & Capper, I shall ask your Lordship to hold that they are calculated to deceive within the meaning of the Act.

His Lordship: The title of your company is the Sanitas Company, Limited.

Mr. Aston: Yes. And the Attorney-General says we are not entitled to register the title of our company. I do not know the section of the Act which says that. If you have a fancy term applied to a company, I do not know why you cannot register it. There are many companies known by a fanciful designation; for instance, the Apollinaris Company. He submitted that the application of the company ought to succeed.

Mr. Sebastian followed.

Without calling on the Attorney-General, his Lordship held that the word could not be registered in class 3. He said the word was not a "fancy" word within the meaning of the Act. His Lordship proceeded: "There are, I should say, very few people in England who could not translate the word 'Sanitas,' especially since the apophthegm of the late Lord Beaconsfield, which everyone remembers so well. The truth is that this word applied to medicine would mean to any ordinary person that the medicine was health medicine, health-giving medicine; that is, the quality or effect of the medicine. On that ground alone I should be prepared to refuse the application. But it has been argued seriously that as the word has acquired a secondary meaning—though it had not a fancy meaning originally—it can now be registered. Now, that is exactly contrary to the express terms of the Act of Parliament. The Act says that the word to be registered must be a 'fancy word not in common use.' You cannot register a word which is not 'fancy' otherwise because in the trade it has acquired a special meaning. If it were not so, then you could register every word in the English language which has acquired a secondary meaning, which would be directly contrary to the language of the Act of Parliament. If a man has a word which in connection with his goods has come to be distinguished in the market



as designating his goods, then he can put it on the register at once. So much for the main argument. In 1876 there was a trade-mark registered consisting of a circle and the words 'Sanitas Sanitatum, omnia Sanitas,' and it was registered for chemical substances, chemical preparations, medical preparations ordinarily used in homœopathy. Now comes this company and says, 'Allow me to take this word "Sanitas," and register it as my trade-mark for medicines,' and the Comptroller, whose duty it is to prevent confusion, refused the application, as he would have the right to do if on that ground alone. But it does not rest there. In 1878 Mr. Bevan registered a mark with the words 'Sanitas, Felicitas, Morbus, Misera'; and then I am told by the Attorney-General, representing the Comptroller, that it is not competent for a company to register its own name. I think that in refusing the application to register that the Comptroller is right—right, mainly, on the first ground which I have considered."

Application dismissed with costs.

### BANKRUPTCY REPORTS.

*Re* WALTER PATTERSON CARR, High Street, Berwick-on-Tweed, Chemist and Druggist.

THE debtor, who trades as W. Graham Carr & Sons, as a chemist and cod-liver oil manufacturer in Berwick-on-Tweed, having made an assignment for behoof of his creditors, a meeting of those to whom he is indebted was held in the Berwick Corn Exchange on Thursday, November 17. A statement of affairs was read, and Mr. Carr offered a dividend of 10s. in the pound, payable in ten months. Messrs. A. L. Miller, T. M. Morrison, and W. C. Calverhill were appointed a committee of inspection, and the meeting adjourned for a month to allow the debtor time to obtain security.

*Re* CLUTTERBUCK & GRIFFIN, Bristol, Drysalters.

F. J. T. MORGAN, W. J. Shellabear, and Jabez Clutterbuck, the individual partners of the above-named firm, were further examined before Mr. Registrar Harley at Bristol on November 18. It was intimated that the three cases had been consolidated, and the Official Receiver applied for a long adjournment, which after some discussion was granted, January 13, 1888, being the date fixed for the next examination.

*Re* JOHN HELLOWELL, West Street, Leeds, Chemist and Druggist.

THE examination of this debtor was continued on Tuesday. The liabilities amounted to 238*l.* 19*s.* 1*d.*, and the debtor alleged as the cause of his failure bad trade, bad debts, and loss as a surety for about 50*l.* The statement showed a surplus from securities in the hands of creditors fully secured of 250*l.*, but it was stated that there was no estate. The examination was closed.

*Re* GERALD FITZGIBBON, formerly of Eastcheap, Drysaltery Broker.

AT the London Bankruptcy Court last week, Mr. Justice Cave heard counsel in regard to the appeal from a decision of the trustee of the estate of the above-named, rejecting a proof against the bankrupt's estate by Mr. Thos. Clark, sen., colonial broker, Mincing Lane, for the sum of 1,999*l.* 11*s.* 7*d.* The matter was first heard by his Lordship shortly before the long vacation, when, it appearing that there were matters of account to be inquired into, a reference was decided to the registrar for his report. Mr. Willis, who appeared for Mr. Clark, said that after one hearing of the case before Mr. Registrar Brougham the trustee felt that it would be advantageous if he had an opportunity of examining Mr. Clark's books. This he afterwards did, and as the result of his investigation he now consented to admit the proof for the full amount, and that Mr. Clark should be allowed the costs to which he had been put in establishing his claim. Mr. Prosser, for the trustee, assented, and the appeal was allowed, and Mr. Clark's proof admitted.

*Re* W. C. MILWARD, St. Stephen's Square, Westbourne Park, Doctor of Medicine.

THIS debtor applied to Mr. Registrar Hazlitt to pass his public examination upon accounts showing liabilities 2,745*l.*, and no assets. In examination by the official solicitor the debtor stated that he commenced practising in Manchester in 1885, and at the time of starting owed 250*l.* in addition to 1,150*l.* owed to his mother. He moved to Brixton, where he remained eighteen months, and left owing to defective drains. Since leaving Manchester he had paid about 785*l.* to his creditors. He had handed the pass-book to the Official Receiver. No creditor appeared to oppose, and the examination was ordered to be concluded.

*Re* F. THOMAS.

UNDER the failure of Frederick Thomae, of 21 Mincing Lane, and 36 Mark Lane, merchant, a statement of affairs has been furnished, showing gross liabilities 8,373*l.*, of which 2,024*l.* are expected to rank, and assets estimated at 175*l.*

It would appear from the Official Receiver's observations that the debtor began business in 1867 with a capital of 4,000*l.*, and in 1876 filed a petition for liquidation, under which he paid a composition of 2*s.* in the pound, and received his discharge. He attributed his present failure chiefly to a great falling off in his profits in his dealings in cinchona, consequent on the great diminution in the value of that article during the past four years, and to loss on time dealings in wheat, &c.

The Court has made an order for summary administration, and the debtor has been adjudged bankrupt.

*Re* DAVID TAYLOR & SONS, 61 Mark Lane, E.C., Merchants.

THE debtor, Herbert Taylor (trading under the above style), applied on Tuesday to Mr. Registrar Linklater that a scheme of arrangement, which had been accepted by the creditors, might be confirmed. The receiving order was made in July last, and the statement of affairs shows total liabilities 125,530*l.* 8*s.* 2*d.*, of which 28,254*l.* 7*s.* 7*d.* is expected to rank, and assets 9,774*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.* Mr. Winslow, Q.C., and Mr. Woolf, appeared in support of the application, Mr. Aldridge for the Official Receiver. Mr. Aldridge read the report upon the file, which stated among other things that the scheme provided for the vesting of the estate in a trustee, to be administered as in bankruptcy for the benefit of the creditors, power being given to the trustee to sell the estate so vested (exclusive of the claim against Messrs. Winthrop, Cunningham & Co., of Philadelphia) for the sum of 7,500*l.* It was further reported that the assets were somewhat uncertain, and that under the circumstances the scheme was beneficial to the general body of creditors. The debtor's drawings had been very heavy, and had in some instances exceeded the profits made. It was also alleged that he had entered into a voluntary covenant to pay to his wife, from whom he was separated, a sum of 1,500*l.*, and to leave her on his death 30,000*l.*, the interest to be paid her during her life, and the principal on her death to pass into the residue of the debtor's estate, his position at that time not being such as warranted his entering into such a covenant. It was further alleged that the debtor had been guilty of a breach of trust. Mr. Winslow said that as to the breach of trust he should in the first place submit that that would not be a bar to the approval by the Court; but, apart from that, he was prepared to show that there was no breach of trust at all. The money which was the subject of the allegation was retained in the business, and interest was paid upon it for many years. His Honour pointed out that the debtor had himself admitted that he had no authority to retain the money in the business. Mr. Winslow submitted that the executrix was perfectly aware that the money was being used in the business. As to the excessive drawing, it was the son who had overdrawn, and not the father, and the father was powerless in the matter. As to the settlement, it could hardly be said to be a voluntary one, as it was made under a deed of separation; moreover, it was prepared at a time when the debtor was firmly under the impression that he could afford to pay the amount specified in the deed. His Honour said he was of opinion that this was a case in which the approval of the Court should be given to the



scheme, as the creditors would certainly get a larger dividend than they would if the estate was wound up in bankruptcy. As to the breach of trust, he was of opinion that that had been explained away, and it was clear that the parties knew perfectly well that the money was being used in the business. Having regard to all the circumstances of the case, and looking at the fact that the Official Receiver did not actively oppose the scheme, he should order it to be confirmed.

*Re* S. W. BRADBURY, Liverpool, Birkenhead, and Llandoverly, South Wales, Sheep-dip Manufacturer.

ON Thursday this matter came before Mr. Registrar Giffard for judgment. Upon the case being called, Mr. Houghton said that Mr. Kemp, Q.C., was desirous of addressing his Honour upon one or two points in order to vindicate his client, Mr. Cooper. His Honour said it seemed to him a little out of order. The case had occupied some considerable time, and had been held over for judgment which he was now prepared to give. It seemed to him a most unheard-of thing, after all the arguments had been concluded, to attempt to reopen the case by addressing the Court just as judgment was about to be delivered. Mr. Houghton said the remarks which Mr. Kemp wished to make were not intended in any way to alter the effect of his Honour's judgment.

The Registrar: Then the application can be made after my judgment is delivered.

Mr. H. Reed said he did not wish to interpose, but he noticed reporters were present, and he happened to know that every word appeared in the newspapers.

Mr. Houghton: All Mr. Kemp wishes to do is to vindicate his client—

The Registrar (interrupting): I do not think this is a time to air Mr. Cooper's grievances. I must give my judgment, and any application that Mr. Kemp wishes to make can be made afterwards.

His Honour in giving judgment said: The debtor in this case is charged with not having kept proper books, and he is further charged by the trustee with being guilty of fraud, forgery, and practically embezzlement. The story as told by the bankrupt in his examination is that in 1878 he was in the employ of Messrs. Cooper, who were sheep-dip manufacturers, and that subsequently he left them and started business on his own account, and that three months afterwards he sold his business to a company, receiving as consideration shares in the company and a promise of 1,600*l.* in cash. Two directors were appointed, and the bankrupt also seems to have acted as a sort of secretary, and to have travelled for orders. He drew 2*l.* or 3*l.* a week, and an additional sum, as it seems, for expenses; that, however, did not clearly come out. He also carried on a little business on his own account, and between the two contrived to live. The company never seems to have been much of a success, and the bankrupt was from time to time assisted by Mr. Morgan, who was the largest shareholder, with money. It was alleged that both the directors disappeared, and one of them, Bamford, being ill, gave the bankrupt a power of attorney to act for him, and subsequently died. The bankrupt during this time was carrying on the business, and he was accused of issuing share certificates purporting to have been signed by Bamford after the man was dead. The bankrupt alleged that he had acted under the power of attorney, and was not aware that Bamford was dead, and no evidence has been given to disprove the statement. It has also been alleged against the bankrupt that he has sued shareholders for calls, but no evidence has been given proving that he got anything from them. It has also been alleged that, acting as secretary, he called a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of appointing a manager. No shareholders were in attendance, and it is stated that he appointed a Mr. Walsh, a foreman of the company, to the office of manager, and that he subsequently agreed with Walsh to take over a bill of sale on the plant, machinery, &c., as security for 400*l.* of his claim of 1,600*l.*, which he had not received. The bankrupt then appears to have consulted with Mr. Morgan, and it was agreed with Walsh that the bill of sale should be assigned to Morgan for valuable consideration, and the bankrupt left the company at Birkenhead in abeyance, as he called it, and set up business at Llandoverly. The bankrupt alleges that the creditors knew all about this, and that he did not abandon the company without first

calling a meeting of the shareholders. He went to Llandoverly, at any rate, and Mr. Morgan afterwards moved the plant and machinery from Birkenhead under the powers of the bill of sale. The bankrupt's explanation is that if the Llandoverly business was a success he intended to revive the Birkenhead company, but as it failed he could not revive the company. Eventually he sold the business at Llandoverly for the consideration of 3*l.* a week, payable to his wife, which the bankrupt says was insisted upon by Mr. Morgan, and although it might have the effect of defeating certain creditors, it was not done with that intention. The bankrupt then appears to have gone to Walton-on-Thames and opened a small hotel, and subsequently he came to London and opened a restaurant with his wife's money. The bankrupt alleges that he has been grossly libelled by the Messrs. Cooper, and that he brought an action first against one—during which proceedings a juror was withdrawn—and afterwards against the other, in which the proceedings ultimately dropped. There was no doubt that the libels were calculated to blast the bankrupt's character, but the bankrupt denied that he abandoned the action because compromising evidence was likely to be adduced. With reference to the claims of the company, the bankrupt, although admitting that there might be some due from him, did not accept the amount as being correct as found by the chief clerk at the time the company went into liquidation. He states, however, that he cannot dispute it without his books, which were left at Birkenhead. Now all these things have been denied by the bankrupt, and it struck me with great surprise that no witnesses were called to substantiate the charges which had been made. Mr. Chamberlayne, who was the solicitor to the trustee, was also the solicitor to Messrs. Cooper in the libel action, and he was in the same way solicitor to the winding-up of the company, and he, therefore, knowing the whole of the facts of the case, could no doubt have put his hand upon witnesses if he had wished to do so, and I should have been glad if he had done so. With regard to the allegations against the bankrupt, not one witness is put forward to support them. The bankrupt's allegation that he was owed by the company 1,600*l.* was not denied, and therefore the plant and machinery belonged to him. That, I say, was not denied, and the bill of sale was not inspected. The bankrupt swore that he did not know that Bamford was dead, and that every action of his with regard to the company was prefaced by calling a meeting of the shareholders. These statements were not denied, and no shareholder had been called to prove that he had not received notice of the meetings. In all allegations of offences, unless they are supported by the Official Receiver, the onus of proof is on the parties bringing the charge, and sufficient proof has not been forthcoming in this case for me to inflict upon the bankrupt a long suspension, and the opposing creditors cannot take a short cut to obtain that suspension by giving a short history of the facts, and while the bankrupt denied them say that he was guilty by inference. Upon all the circumstances of the case as laid before me I cannot convict the bankrupt of fraud; and the only offence which I am of opinion is proved against the bankrupt is that he has omitted to keep proper books of account while in the hotel at Walton, and that offence was mitigated, inasmuch as the business was new to him. As to the Llandoverly business, his books were properly kept. I think the bankrupt will be sufficiently punished by a short suspension, and the discharge will therefore be suspended for three months.

Mr. H. Reed (for the bankrupt): I ask, sir, that the suspension be dated from the date of the application for the discharge. The opposition, I submit, was kept up at an unreasonable length, and the case might have been disposed of at an earlier date. The bankrupt first applied for his discharge on October 26.

His Honour: I think if I had disposed of the case on that day I should have said three months, and you may take it from that date.

Mr. Houghton: May I say in Mr. Kemp's absence that all he wished to say was that Messrs. Cooper denied that they were at the bottom of the proceedings. They had nothing to do with the winding up of the company, and knew nothing of the books alleged to have been left at Birkenhead.

The Registrar: Very well; I will take that from you as coming from Mr. Kemp.



## TRADE-MARKS APPLIED FOR.

THE *Trade Marks Journal* publishes the following notice:—"Any person who has good grounds for objection to the registration of any of the following marks may, within two months of the date of this journal, give notice in duplicate at the Patent Office, in the form 'J,' in the second schedule to the Trade Marks Rules, 1883, of opposition to such registration." The address of the Patent Office is Southampton Buildings, London, W.O.

From the "*Trade Marks Journal*," November 16 and 23, 1887.

"ST. JACOB'S OIL," and other wording, with figure of an old man; for chemical preparations (Class 3). By The Charles A. Vogeler Company, Farringdon Road, E.C. 65,327.

Figure of a bee, and initials; for a furniture polish. By R. G. Benson, Mitcham. 66,264.

Figure of part of a stopper, and "Roberts' Capsule Stopper"; for metal capsules. By Roberts' Capsule Stopper Company (Limited), 22 Harp Lane, E.C. 66,890-1.

"COOK'S LIGHTNING CLEANSER," in oblong, with zigzag marks; for soap. By Edward Cook & Co., Bow. 62,378.

"VIKING"; for extracts and essences of meat and preserved soups and foods. By the Viking Food and Essence Company (Limited), 28 Hearn Street, Curtain Road. 63,522.

"CHICCARONI"; for a food for chickens and poultry. By Ayre Brothers, Hull. 64,242.

Solidified soup squares, with labels and signature of Elizabeth Lazenby; for solidified soups. By E. Lazenby & Son, 18 Trinity Street, Borough. 64,257.

"OK," with black horse in front; for perfumed soap. By J. W. Houldsworth, manufacturing chemist, Heckmond-wike. 64,472.

"J. J. T.," in monogram, surmounted by pestle and mortar; for paints, &c., and for perfumery, &c. By J. J. Tremear, chemist and druggist, Barnstaple. 64,493-4.

"SALAMMO"; for edible oils, fats, grease. By Bigland, Son, & Jeffreys, 28 Exchange Buildings, Liverpool. 64,562.

"ZEPHYR LIGHTS"; for candles and night-lights. By J. R. Greaves, 9 Richmond Gardens, Romford Road, Forest Gate, E. 64,620.

"PUBLIC HEALTH SOAP," with picture of children carrying bucket; for soap. By the Health Soap Company, Bootle, Liverpool. 64,685.

"THE GOLDEN OIL," with shield bearing star and crescent; for medicinal oil for rheumatism, &c. By C. E. Dixon, Lindon Villa, Outram Road, Southsea. 64,732.

"THE EARL'S RENOWNED PILLS," with drawing of earl's coronet; for pills. By D. & C. Smithies, Elland. 64,802.

"OSSICURA"; for medicated articles. By G. W. Davis, schoolmaster, Ronney Villa, Kingswood Road, Moseley, Birmingham. 64,962.

"THE THORNTON LOTION," and "THORNTON'S CELEBRATED TOILET CREAM"; for pharmaceutical preparations for the hair. By A. P. Towle & Son, chemists, 75 Back Piccadilly, Manchester. 64,983-4.

Label headed "Extraordinary Sport," with picture of game-keepers on a moor; for a "preparation consisting of tobacco, cayenne, saltpetre, sulphur, black pepper, and snuff, which, on being ignited, bolts rabbits and the like animals from their runs." By G. Pottle, sportsman, Dartford. 65,005.

Oval garter, with girl inside, on globe; for chemical substances used in medicine and pharmacy. By J. V. Brandau, M.D., Sichtenan, Prussia. 65,025.

"PATERSON'S TANGERINE SAUCE"; by R. Paterson & Sons, 33 Osborne Street, Glasgow. 65,464.

St. Jacob's Oil, with picture and other wording; by the Charles A. Vogeler Co., Baltimore, U.S., and 45 Farringdon Street, E.C. 66,346.

"CADBURY BROS." (signature); for chemical substances, for use in medicine and pharmacy; for paper, stationery, bookbinding; for candles, soap, &c.; for perfumery, &c.; for miscellaneous articles. By Cadbury Bros., cocoa manufacturers, Bournville, Birmingham. 66,483, 66,491-4-5-6.

"GALVANITE," T. Griffiths (signature); for pigments, &c. By Griffiths Bros., 5 Dashwood House, New Broad Street, E.C.

## Gazette.

## PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

GOODE BROTHERS, York Road, Middlesex, formerly of Greenwich; manufacturers, &c., of Goode's desiccated food; as far as regards R. O. Orme-Webb.

JELICO, CALTHROP & Co., Liverpool, merchants of guano chemical manures and cattle-feeding stuffs, and general merchants; as far as regards J. F. Jellico.

QUANT & AKHURST, Bradford, near Manchester, manufacturing chemists.

WILCOX & BELL, Eleanor Road, Woolwich, physicians.

## THE BANKRUPTCY ACT, 1883.

## RECEIVING ORDERS.

FORSTER, THOMAS, Monkseaton, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Blyth, aerated-water manufacturer.

GOODMAN, ZACHARIAH WALTER, Barking, Essex, soap maker.

MORGAN, RICHARD NASH LEIGH (formerly trading as the Tyne Rubber Company), Newcastle-on-Tyne, indiarubber manufacturer.

## ADJUDICATIONS.

CANN, FREDERICK, Bridgnorth, veterinary surgeon.

JAY, ALFRED (trading as Jay Père et Fils), late of Fitzroy Street, Euston Road, present address unknown, wholesale perfumer.

## FIRST MEETINGS AND PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS.

CLIFFORD, FREDERICK, & BRAND, CHARLES FISH (trading as J. Hollis), Rendlesham Road, Clapton, drysalers. First meeting, Nov. 25, 33 Carey Street, Lincoln's Inn; public examination, Dec. 7, 34 Lincoln's Inn Fields.

FORSTER, THOMAS, Monkseaton, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Blyth, aerated-water manufacturer. Dec. 3, Official Receiver's office, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Dec. 1, County Court, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THOMAS, FREDERICK (trading as F. Thomae & Co.), Crouch Hill Road, Hornsey, Mincing Lane, and Mark Lane, merchant. Nov. 25, Bankruptcy Buildings, Portugal Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields; Dec. 13, 34 Lincoln's Inn Fields.

TROMANS, SAMUEL, Tamworth, out of business, formerly hotel-keeper and aerated-water manufacturer. Nov. 30, 25 Colmore Row, Birmingham; Dec. 14, County Court, Birmingham.

## ORDER MADE ON APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE.

GINSTER, MATTHIAS JOSEPH LANDENBERG, Ogley Hay Lock, Brownhills, Staffordshire, and Erdington, Warwickshire, artificial manure manufacturer. Discharge refused.

## SCOTCH SEQUESTRATION.

LETTERS, PATRICK, some time chemist, Dundee, thereafter doctor of medicine, residing at 29 Springfield, Dundee. To be examined in the Bankruptcy Court, Sheriff Court House, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, Dec. 2, at 2 o'clock.



## A CHEMIST'S HOLIDAY IN MYSORE.

BY DAVID HOOPER.

LAST July I visited the native province of Mysore, in Southern India, and I thought that some notes of my tour in this interesting country might be acceptable to the readers of your journal.

Mysore is an undulating tableland lying between the Eastern and Western Ghats. It is 3,000 feet above the sea, but elevations occur in Malnad, on the western and mountainous side, ranging from 2,000 to 6,000 feet. The region botanically is characterised by bamboo, and the rather dry climate is favourable to the production of gums, resins, and other exudations from plants. The earliest accounts describe the country as covered with forest, and it is only within the last century that the cultivation of cereal crops, areca and date palms has partly displaced the wooded tracts. There are a few of these forests left, considerably reduced in size, but the names of the districts indicate the character of the trees once grown, as, for instance, Chandanaranya (Sandal Forest), Gangajaranya (Abrus Forest), and Kundaranya (Jasmin Forest). The language almost universally spoken in Mysore is Canarese, from the country of Canara bordering on the north-west.

The large European and military station of Bangalore was my first destination. Here were an extensive native town, or *pettah*, two bazaars, and the bungalows of the English residents scattered in the suburbs among tropical vegetation. The Government Botanic Gardens, called "Lal Bagh" (Red Garden), are ably superintended by Mr. J. Cameron, F.L.S. They represent all the indigenous and naturalised trees and shrubs, both economic and ornamental, grown in this part of India. The most handsome in the collection is undoubtedly the "Flame of the Forest" (*Cesalpinia pulcherrima*). The umbrageous tamarind, with its dark green foliage made up of delicately pinnated leaves, is also a prominent tree; its green acid pods, not unlike broad beans, are preserved and exported. *Cathartocarpus fistula*, another large tree of this order, is well named the "Indian laburnum" from its resemblance when in flower to the attractive *Cytisus*; the long cylindrical pods or lomentaceous legumes have suggested to the natives two other names—"Candle" and "Long-pudding tree."

The chief article of commerce in Mysore, and the most important item in the forest revenue, is the sandal wood. The *Santalum album* is from 30 to 60 feet high, with not a very robust habit; the colour of the stem is darker than that of the figs and cassias in its vicinity; the flowers are small and red; but neither the bark, sap-wood, leaves, nor flowers have that fragrance which is found in the duramen or heart-wood. The sandal is propagated by seeds, and as both the wood and the tree are a Government monopoly, the fruits are carefully collected by servants, whether from forests or from the compounds of private houses. Natural grown sandal is being attended to by having a system of special men called "sandal monegars" to look after their cultivation, as there is a doubt if the artificially grown trees will have the same amount and quality of perfume as the self-sown. The wood is sold by auction once a year, the larger portion being purchased by merchants of Bombay. Until the sales it is stored in depôts called "Kotes," situated in several towns in the province. Mysore sandal is appreciated above all other kinds, especially in the China market, and it has a steady net price of 45*l.* per ton at the place of production, showing it to be the most valuable wood in the world. During the year 1886-1887 a better sale of the wood realised about 46,000*l.*, a substantial increase to the Mysore Forest revenue of one lakh of rupees, or 10,000*l.*, over the sales of the previous year.

The Lal Bagh contained many other trees noted for affording medicinal products:—*Strychnos Nux vomica*, with its round green fruit sheltered under the branches; *Mallotus Philippinensis*, with its drooping inconspicuous inflorescence, like most of the Euphorbiaceæ; *Erythroxylon Coca* in a healthy condition, although overrun by black ants; the climbing *Abrus precatorius*, with its dusky pods and scarlet seeds. *Pterocarpus marsupium*, the Malabar kino, and *Butea frondosa*, the Bengal kino, grow side by side, and form a trio of timber trees with *Pterocarpus santalinus*. A few species

of *Eucalyptus*, from Australia, were not flourishing at this altitude. Besides these may be seen *Dichopsis gutta*, from the Straits Settlement; *Manihot Glaziovii*, from Brazil; *Araucaria Cookii*, from California; *Artocarpus incisa*, from the South Sea Islands; and *Dammara robusta*, from New Zealand—all yielding secretions used largely in the arts.

The Mysore Government Museum, Bangalore, is also under Mr. Cameron's supervision. It has a most varied collection of products and antiquities of the country—coins, minerals, stones, fibres, rubbers, dyes, tanning agents, besides a number of gums and resins taken from trees in the Lal Bagh. Dr. Kirkpatrick has given a case of specimens illustrating the medicines used by the "Nakeems," or native doctors of India, together with their uses and doses.

The teaching of scientific chemistry is carried out at the Central College, and in a few minor schools. The laboratory in the former place has accommodation for about thirty students, where, for the matriculation of the Madras University, they undergo a course of practical work that has been denominated "test-tubing." For the F.A. (First in Arts) and B.A. degrees the pupils are instructed in elementary quantitative analysis. The laboratory, like those in Madras, has the disadvantage of having no gas, and the light, which is here accompanied by heat, is not liberally admitted; in other respects, with its teak counters, side benches, and water-supply, it is well appointed.

The pharmacies in Bangalore are held mostly by Europeans, but Parsees, Muhammadans, and Hindoos, who have obtained a certificate as "chemist and druggist," retail drugs and chemicals, and dispense medicines. The certificate is given to those who attend a course of lectures in chemistry, pharmacy, botany, and materia medica during a curriculum lasting two years at some medical college, usually Madras, and who pass an examination at its close. Each pharmacy is well stocked with proprietary preparations, which are well advertised in all Indian newspapers; the bottles and drawers, forming so prominent a spectacle in shops in England, are here usually kept out of sight in the dispensing department. In one store I noticed a stock of the flat Calisaya bark from South America, some gamboge from Siam, gum arabic from Kordofan, powdered opium and "ext. cannab. ind.," obtained from a London wholesale house, but all of which could be obtained or prepared in the country. The official *Cinchona succirubra* is cultivated in South Mysore, and in the neighbouring territories of the Nilgiris, Urganad, and Coor. *Garcinia Morella* and *Acacia Arabica*, both indigenous, yield respectively a gum-resin and a clear gum quite equal to the Pharmacopœial characters and tests; while opium in a very pure state can be purchased in the bazaars. The British Pharmacopœia of 1885 is now official all over India; the Indian Pharmacopœia of 1868, built upon the B.P. of 1867, although a useful compilation, is hardly commensurate with the present state of pharmacognosy.

The manufacture of castor-oil is carried on extensively in the villages by the class *Ganigas*. The mill for crushing the seeds and pressing the oil is in the form of a large stone pestle and mortar worked by bullocks. Two kinds of oil are made; the better is obtained from small seeds, and is the kind used in medicine; the inferior is pressed from large seeds, and is used for lamps. Castor-cake is usually burnt as fuel, but is well adapted as a manure for exhausted soils. Of the other kinds of oil made gingelly or sesame oil, called "Woll ellu," from *Sesamum Indicum*, is universally regarded as the best. "Hippe," a fatty oil from the ripe kernels of *Bassia longifolia*, is used in lamps burnt before gods, and the cake acts as a soap to wash oil out of the hair of those who anoint themselves. "Honge" oil, from the seeds of *Pongamia glabra*, consumes very quickly when burnt; it is employed as a remedy for rheumatism and for cutaneous diseases. "Kobri" oil, or cocoanut oil, from the kernel ("kobri") of the cocoanut, is a common illuminant, and is often resorted to by the doctor and the cook. "Huch ellu," or "Ram-til," a thin oil from *Guizotia oleifera*, is a lubricant for delicate machinery.

The town of Seringapatam, so well known for the defeat of the great Muhammadan "Tiger," Tippu Sultan, in 1799, might be considered more the resort of the historian or antiquarian than of the chemist; but many objects of interest among the ruins were here found and made a note of. I had the privilege of being conducted over the town by Mr. S.



Busappah, the native apothecary in charge, and the author of a "Guide to Seringapatam." As the guide was out of print, the alternative of the author's services was willingly accorded and as gratefully received. Seringapatam is an island on the river Canvery, and the inhabitants, exclusively native, find employment in extensive paddy cultivation. It is considered to be very unhealthy, fevers and cholera often prevailing. When occupied by the British it did not appear to be unsalubrious. The inhabitants attribute this to the destruction of the sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*), which formerly grew in great profusion on the banks of the river, and was supposed to possess febrifugal properties. The palace within the fort has now disappeared, with the exception of the rooms previously occupied by the servants of Tippu's harem, which are converted into a "sandal kote."

The "Summer Palace," outside the fort, was decorated in true Oriental style with scenes of battle and everyday life depicted on the wall, and most gaudy colours, red, yellow, purple, thrown together with the usual artistic taste. It does not seem to be generally known that the "false gilding," at one time largely used in ornamenting this and other palaces, was made from aloes. A country-made aloes, called "Musambra," was boiled and mixed with some thick oil and gum. This paste was applied to pieces of paper cut in the shape of flowers, and made to adhere to the woodwork of the building. The "musambra" I have examined is a very impure article, but it contains a large quantity of orange-coloured material which in thin strata would well imitate brass or goldware.

A neglected temple in the fort showed a "Brundavana" within the outer court. This is a square brick structure built on a raised piece of ground upon which is planted the purple-stalked basil (*Ocimum sanctum*) or "Tulasi" of the natives; it is preserved and worshipped in honour of Vishnu. These Brundavanas are occasionally seen outside the houses of high-caste Hindus. As the fragrant leaves of tulasi (of the natural order Labiate) are sacred to Vishnu, so the leaves of the "Bilpatri" (*Eyle marmelos*) are held in veneration of Siva or Eswara. The papaw (*Carica papaya*), although a native of the West, has long been domesticated in India. It has been used for years as an anthelmintic and emmenagogue, but the administration of the juice of the fruit as a "vegetable pepsin" is, even now, little known. It is satisfactory to find the papaw tolerably abundant in these parts. What with the chupatties, the buffalo steaks, the goat-mutton chops, and the curried dishes the Anglo-Indian has at times to devour, the digestion very often stands in need of artificial assistance, and it is a source of comfort to know that such an effective remedy is at hand.

The residents of Seringapatam place arrack and toddy at a discount, as they take their narcotic, like the Chinese, by fumigation. They meet together in the evenings and indulge in the soothing influence of the ganja-pipe. The ganja used for smoking is the dried leaves and stalks of the *Cannabis sativa*, sometimes mixed with tobacco leaves. Other preparations of the plant are "white and black marjoon." The former is made by grinding the leaves of Indian hemp with milk and adding sugar and spices; it is a mild preparation, and is given to children. The latter is a stronger confection, used by adults, and made with "jaggery," or country sugar. For criminal purposes an extract is sweetened with sugar and flavoured with spices; a piece of this about the size of a pea is quite sufficient to render anyone unconscious for several hours. The first effects of ganja are very exhilarating, and afterwards sedative, or, as described to me by a native gentleman, "It was first like heaven and earth going round on a wheel, and myself with them, and then one gets as sleepy as an owl."

At Kengah Kopal, on the northern bank of the Canvery, above Seringapatam, there is a quantity of "red and yellowish quartz," or what to me appeared like porphyry. The native doctors here and elsewhere attach a high value to the mortars and pestles made from this stone, and "kilnuths," or stone vessels used by the natives, are prepared from it. I was anxious to procure a pestle and mortar, but there were difficulties in the way. The proprietor of the quarry resides at Mysore, and when an order is placed with him he sends for the stone, and it is brought back to be worked. As he never keeps anything in stock, he cannot be credited with an enterprising character.

I next visited Mysore, the city of palaces and dirt, but have little to report from here. The *Acacia Arabica* or "Kari

Jali," the mulberry, *Ficus Indica*, and a species of *aloe* were growing in the suhnrs, while *Andrococtyle Asiatica*, *Hemidesmus Indicus*, *Rubia cordifolia*, and *Euphorbia pilulifera*, all having great virtues, grow as weeds among the grass. The *E. pilulifera* is allied to the *E. Drummondii* of Australia, and may be found to have the same constituent, viz., an "alkaloid" possessing the properties of calcium oxalate.

The following are some of the exported articles from the districts of Tumkur, Kolar, Kadur, Shimoga:—Gall-nuts, gum, honey, kamala (kapile rung), orris root, areca-nuts, marking-nuts, tamarinds, tobacco, turmeric, cotton, lac, poppy-seeds, cocoanuts, oils and oil seeds, cummin, fenugreek, capicum, sugar, coriander, mustard, coffee, ginger, safflower and cardamoms. Such produce as honey, gum, certain fruits and seeds are gathered by a wild race called "Karumbas," living in the jungles on the south and west of the province. The produce of the country is exported by way of Mercara to Mangalore on the western coast, or from Mysore and Bangalore by rail to Madras and other stations on the Madras and South Indian railways.

I was unable to visit the gold mines in Kolar, the iron-works in the north, the Astragram sugar refinery (now a distillery), and the tanneries and dye factories, in which a chemist could take delight. But these must be left for other pens to describe. If I have the fortune on another occasion to draw a month's privilege leave, I hope to go to some other part of India, where, if it be as interesting as Mysore, I may be induced to notice other resources of our vast "Empire in the East."

#### A WEEK IN A DRUG-STORE.

AFTER studying at a school of pharmacy for the prescribed course I presented myself and was fortunate enough to pass the Major, with permission to call myself a pharmaceutical chemist. After taking a somewhat protracted holiday I began to look out for something whereon to exercise my talents, when the idea struck me to see what a drug-store was really like. Now, I had heard a lot of talk about the ways and means of drug-stores, and I thought to verify in some degree these rumours, and be thus fortified in the battle of life which I must enter in real earnest.

I looked in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST advertisement columns, but could see nothing which seemed like an ideal spot, and would have given up the idea had I not received in answer to one of my applications to what seemed an ordinary business address, a footnote that "our business is conducted on modern principles, and is known as the — Drug Stores." Here was the place at last, and it happened that I was right, for all future correspondence was conducted on notepaper one half of which was a thesis on the hoon their existence was to the public and a feeble endeavour to estimate the thousands of pounds saved by dealing with them. This did not deter me, nor did a rather strongly expressed wish in the last letter that I was businesslike rather than scientific, as the latter had no place in their estimation of an assistant's worth.

I arrived one evening and had a look at the external signs. The window was neatly decorated with "our preparations" with titles strangely similar to those of many advertised medicines, and in the centre was a huge pile of a popular tonic, with "our price" and "usual price" in bold relief. The name of the store was in large letters on the fascia, and a peep through the door showed a long shop with counter running on one side, whilst the customers' side was occupied by showcases, where everything was shown to the best advantage, and plentifully besprinkled with neat price-tickets. I went in and saw one of the managers, who directed me as to likely spots to obtain lodgings and asked me to come at ten in the morning. The hours were long, business commencing at half-past eight and ordinarily finishing at eight; but the host of extra duties made them considerably longer. Each arrival and departure were recorded on a board ruled for the purpose. In one of the letters which passed between us I was told that there were over twenty people employed, of whom eight or nine were qualified; this I found was the total of three shops under their control; but let this pass as probably a slip of the pen. The rooms of the house were occupied as store-rooms, and for manufacturing pur-



poses, if you can so describe the operations of boys boxing pills and ointments. A system of gongs was in use, so that by the number of strokes given any assistant could be called forward to serve. All payments and change in the shop were made at a cash desk, whither the customer took the bill, the server keeping the counterpart of the bill, which had to tally when the accounts were called over. Assistants were not allowed to pay for anything they required out of the shop, but must have monthly accounts, which were presented simultaneously with the month's salary. A system of premiums on sale of own preparations was a leading point, and was held out as being worth about 20% a year. That sounds grand, but when you take into account fines imposed on every possible occasion, and payment in full for breakages, lost dusters, &c., it will be seen that a considerable reduction was the result. My salary was to be 70% a year out-doors, and I was engaged as dispenser; but I hardly know if that term could be applied to my duties, so motley were they. I was apportioned a share of the shop dusting, was to fill up all the shop bottles and drawers, make Pharmacopœia preparations, including ointments and tinctures, prepare and wrap a certain quantity of the stores preparations, including tooth-paste manufacture, take the stock of bottles monthly throughout the bottle cupboards, besides being liable to be called into the shop at any moment. The dispensary was a small room at the back of shop, only a corner of which was used for preparing prescriptions, the remainder being used as unpacking room, and for putting up stock. The prescriptions perhaps averaged eighteen a day; a small label was affixed for the dispenser's initials and those of the checker, and when made up the medicine was taken down to the shop with the order, priced. Concentrated infusions and ready-made solutions were the order of the day, and old bottles were required to be used again. It will not be necessary to enter into prices, as they were the average store charges with a few cheap lines interposed.

The reader will perhaps think that these expressions are written in bitterness of spirit; but it is not so, as I have no reason to complain of the treatment I received; but I quite see that they must obtain the maximum amount of work for the minimum amount of salary, or their business would be quite a failure. I might add that they are constantly changing assistants, which seems to show that this desire is not altogether appreciated. This identical store was recently alluded to amongst a number of others in your journal as an object for the Pharmaceutical Society's care, and to make themselves safer they only allow qualified assistants to sell poisons.

#### SOME THOUGHTS ON PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS AND THEIR WORK.

BY ONE WHO HAS PULLED THE STRINGS.

IF we pharmacists sound our immediate neighbours, we find that they fail to understand and appreciate our motives in one respect. It seems odd to them that we should band ourselves together for mutual intellectual benefit and general advancement. Trade-unions they can comprehend, but that men engaged in the same business should meet together, greet trade opponents with unforced good-will, and spend a large proportion of their scant leisure in endeavours to raise all their fellows rather than themselves alone—this passeth all understanding. Yet chemists and druggists in business do this, and do it fairly well on the whole. Their efforts may often seem spasmodic, but that, taken as a body, they are moved by an impulse to help their fellows and leave their little world somewhat better than they found it, there is no shadow of a doubt. Maybe vanity does prompt them in part, but, none the less, their desire to keep out of sight trade jealousies, and their attempts to express the desire, are worthy of imitation. Man is naturally a social animal, and, until his gregarious instinct is gratified, he himself is imperfectly developed. The fierce competition of latter days is a force almost counterbalancing the gravitating tendency, and some additional energy, such as is devoted to the formation and carrying on of provincial associations, must be exerted to completely upset the equilibrium. Now here we have the first condition essential to the success of such movements. Some men with

a fair amount of surplus energy must conceive or imbibe the idea and set to work to carry it out. We find in many places practically defunct societies, which yet linger on in form, and need but one or two energetic men to "stir the dry bones" and set the machinery in motion again. Subscriptions are paid every year when called for, maybe an annual dinner is held for mutual congratulation, and members can be drummed up to attend meetings when necessity calls. Herein is summed up the Alpha and Omega of such sleepy combinations. Many possibilities lie latent in them, and some day they may be moved to action.

Supposing, however, that we have got our men with capacities for unlimited work in the right direction, how shall they best express their wishes in work done? They will first, doubtless, make a personal canvass, then hire a room, next send out notices convening a meeting, and await the turn of events. Well, everybody that is anybody turns up, and a grand palaver ensues. The promoters explain, the old men declaim, the young ones are enthusiastic, and everyone is unanimous that something must be done. So officers are appointed—an imposing and talkative president, a get-at-able treasurer, a much-enduring and laborious honorary secretary, together with a council or committee, providing places to keep influential personages out of the cold. This makes up the tale of necessary ornaments.

Then everybody goes home self-satisfied, and looks for the next move. This is probably a lecture from some noteworthy individual in the district—maybe a complete programme is drawn up, including many similar items; and the first session draws to a close with unclouded brilliancy. The second may be a repetition as regards the working; but soon a hitch arises. One or other of your energetic men gets pumped out, and the thing goes lamely. Then others drop off, and, unless new blood is infused, there is danger of a partial or total collapse. A common expedient is to organise a jolly row at this juncture, and so revive expiring interest; but this gives only a temporary impetus, and the speed decreases more quickly, if anything, than ever. Now, when matters have come to this pass, the only hope for that association is its—and other—young men—the much-patronised and little-helped young men. If your energetic leaders are wise in time, let them take the young men into their counsels and leave them to take the helm for a time. Even though they have narrow shaves, and sail dangerously near the breakers, trust and assist them to keep the ship in order, and wait, assured, for the clouds to roll by. Remember always that greater harm is done by indiscreet blame than by indiscreet praise. "It stands to reason that a young man's work cannot be perfect. It must be more or less ignorant; it must be more or less feeble; it is likely that it may be more or less experimental, and, if experimental, here and there mistaken. If, therefore, you allow yourself to launch out into sudden barking at the first faults you see, the probability is that you are abusing the youth for some defect naturally and inevitably belonging to that stage of his progress; and that you might just as rationally find fault with a child for not being as prudent as a privy councillor, or with a kitten for not being as grave as a cat." Give your young men a chance then, when progress is doubtful, and give them credit for all they do. Now for another suggestion to my brother-pharmacists. If your association is working smoothly your attendance will be a fairly representative one. The wise come to air their wisdom, the ignorant to learn, the would-be busy men to talk, and the workers to listen, whilst some come purely out of regard for what they consider professional decency. But never mind why they come so long as you have them. So far so good. Next, my afflicted brothers in pharmacy, is it not the case that times are pressing hard and that we are beaten down on all sides? Then why not utilise your intellectual union for trade advancement, your association for commercial purposes? You complain of cutting, and see no escape from it whilst your opponents' capital is so much larger than yours that they can sell for less than you can buy. Go to; let us form a syndicate, let our association become a "bloated capitalist" commanding the best markets, and all our members unite to share the advantages, each taking his sufficient stock of any commodity and paying the low market price, plus a very small percentage for working expenses, into the general treasury.

So shall we prosper exceedingly and overcome our enemies, and joy supreme shall reign in the land of pharmacy.



## THE PERIODIC LAW APPLIED TO THE STUDY OF CHEMISTRY.

By J. HALL WORRALL, F.C.S.

(Abstract of a paper read before the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society.)

NEWLANDS was the first to demonstrate that the elements, when arranged in the order of their atomic weights, show at periodic intervals the recurrence of certain characteristics. Dumas also arranged the non-metallic elements in five groups, the members of which were apparently closely related. Other chemists gave the matter their attention, and

it appears from their writings that there is strong ground for assuming that the elements were formed from the same primal matter, and that the difference in their characters is a difference of condensation.

A few years ago the Russian chemist, Mendeleeff, expounded in a systematic manner the correlation of the atomic weights with the chemical and physical properties of the elements. Lothar Meyer has made important contributions to this same subject in his work, "Die Modernen Theorien." These latter contributions to the subject have given rise to what is known as the "Periodic Law," which law was greatly needed for simplifying the study of chemistry.

Mendeleeff has classified all the elements on the following plan:—

Table of Mendeleeff.

Series.	GROUP.							
	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.
1	H = 1							
2	Li = 7	Be = 9	B = 11	C = 12	N = 14	O = 16	F = 19	
3	Na = 23	Mg = 24	Al = 27.3	Si = 28	P = 31	S = 32	Cl = 35.5	
4	K = 39	Cu = 40	Sc = 44	Ti = 48	V = 51.3	Cr = 52	Mn = 55	Fe = 56 Co = 58.6 Ni = 58.6
5	Cu = 63.2	Zn = 65.3	Ga = 68.8	Ge = 72.3	As = 75	Se = 79	Br = 80	
6	Rb = 85.5	Sr = 87.5	Y = 89.8?	Zr = 90	Nb = 94	Mo = 95.5	100?	Ru = 101 Rh = 104 B = 105.7
7	Ag = 107.7	Cd = 112	In = 113.4	Sn = 118	Sb = 120	Te = 125	I = 127	
8	Cs = 133	Ba = 137	La = 138.5	Ce = 140.5	Di = 146	Tb? = 148.8	Sm? = 150	? 152 ? ?
9	?	?	Dp? 159	?	Er? 165.9	?	?	
10	?	?	Yb = 172.8	?	Ta = 182	W = 184	?	Os 198.6? Ir = 193.5 Pt = 194.4
11	Au = 196	Hg = 200	Tl = 204	Pb = 206.5	Bi = 208.2	Ng? 214	?	
12	?	?	?	Th = 233.4	?	U = 238.5	?	

The first series consists of hydrogen alone, which, of course, is taken as unity. Then, starting with lithium, it is found that, for the most part, the catalogue of elements may be broken up into a series of seven; so that, like the notes in a musical scale, the eighth element may be considered as the octave to the first, to which also it bears the strongest resemblance in all its properties. For example, Na, Mg, Al, Si, P, S, and Cl, become respectively the octaves of Li, Be, B, C, U, O, and F. From the *even* to the *odd* series the transition of properties is mostly gradual, whilst, on the other hand, the change from *odd* to *even* is abrupt. The valency of the elements is seen to be periodic, since in the second series lithium is a monad, beryllium a dyad, boron a triad, carbon a tetrad, nitrogen a pentad or triad, oxygen a hexad or dyad, and fluorine a septad or monad. The third and subsequent series display the same periodicity, and the knowledge of this may be turned to good account by the student in writing chemical symbols. The volatility diminishes from the beginning of the second, third, and subsequent double series to the middle of the same, and then increases again. Then the electro-chemical power is periodic, as are also the magnetic junction and the specific heat of the elements. The knowledge of the last is of great value as a means whereby the valency of the atom may be determined. Knowing that the atomic weight multiplied by the specific heat gives the constant 64, or in other words that the atoms of all the simple bodies have exactly the same capacity for heat, the determination of an element's specific heat will decide its place amongst the other elements.

Carnelly states that the *odd* series are generally *easily reducible*; that they *often* occur in the *free state in nature*, and are generally found as *sulphides*, but seldom as *oxides*; whilst the *even* series are reducible with *difficulty*, seldom occur in the free state in nature, and are usually found as *oxides* (carbonates, sulphates, &c.), *i.e.* in combination with a negative element of the *even* series. In considering the *groups*, which consist of elements having similar properties, we find that as the atomic weight increases the basic character of the higher oxides is greater, and that these are more easily reduced; also that their stable haloid salts correspond to an oxide lower than the highest, as instanced in  $P_2O_3$ ,  $As_2O_3$ ,  $Sb_2O_3$ , and  $Bi_2O_3$ .

Lothar Meyer puts the general statement of the "Periodic Law" in this form:—"If the elements are arranged in order of increasing atomic weights, the properties of these elements vary from member to member of the series, but return more or less nearly to the same value at certain fixed points in the series." These points constitute the groups. It is almost correct to state that the atomic weight, density, and atomic volume of any element equal half the sum of the atomic weights, densities, and atomic volumes of the elements immediately preceding and following it in the table.

The author then proceeded to speak of Meyer's table, which he considered of greater value than Mendeleeff's. He showed how nearly all the physical properties of the elements are periodic, such as melting-point, volatility, malleability, and even the power of forming coloured solutions with colourless acids is not free from the grasp of this all-including generalisation. The correctness of Mendeleeff's predictions is well shown in his factors for the hypothetical elements, eka-aluminium and eka-silicium. The properties and qualities of the former were what Baisandrau afterwards proved to be those of the newly-discovered gallium, and similar proof has been given regarding eka-silicium, which Winkler has shown to be the element germanium discovered by him last year. The bearing of the law upon the present system of atomic weights was referred to in conclusion, and the author strongly commended the study of it.

GLYCERINE AND COCOA CREAM FOR CHAPPED HANDS, &c. is made from the following formula:—White wax,  $\frac{3}{4}$ lv.; spermaceti,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ij.; cocoa butter,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ix.; castor oil,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ix.; oil of benne,  $\frac{3}{4}$ vj. Melt and mix; then add glycerine,  $\frac{3}{4}$ ij. Perfume to suit taste. This makes quite a nice preparation. Petrolatum is used instead of the oil of benne [sesame oil] by some, and is considered an improvement. Either, however, will do.

NAPHTHOL, according to M. Ch. Bouehard, may with perfect safety be taken internally. Its antiseptic and toxic properties have been accurately determined and reported upon by him to the Academy of Sciences, with the result that, owing to its slight solubility, it is to be preferred in certain cases to all known antiseptic medicines.



## PHARMACOPŒLE CARMEN.

OH! I am a doleful chemist on the verge of London town,  
And I'm worried like the nation, for my luck seems fairly  
down;  
So I thought I'd tell my troubles, if the Editor agree,  
To the sympathetic readers of the lively *C. & D.*

Even now my memory lingers in a fond, regretful way,  
O'er those sweet and dreamland fancies of that great event-  
ful day  
When my two indulgent parients put the question straight  
to me,  
And I up and said at once, sir, that a chemist I would be.

Gone those days of fancy-weaving when my optics found  
delight  
In the glare of coloured carboys as they shone out thro' the  
night,  
And I loved to hear the tinkling of bell mortar as the boy  
With a beautiful indifference banged the aloes or alloy.

Still I think of those successes when I first went to the  
trade  
And the study of paint-mixing to the shadow of a shade;  
For the way I rolled out horse-balls was a treat to any eye,  
And in handling casks of colza I took honours very high.

Of't I've heard the chimes of midnight as I laboured o'er a  
book,  
And as oft the moon has found me still at Attfield or at  
Cooke;  
For I had a sort of notion—all these sciences and arts  
Gave a pharmacist advantage when in business once he  
starts.

So I labour'd on in patience and with lofty aim and true,  
While I stuffed myself with ologies and isms old and new;  
And I wasted time and money, which in any other line  
Would have won me quite a fortune and an everlasting shine.

But there came a rude awak'ning when occasion turned for  
me  
To test the market value of experience and degree.  
For I found the highest bidder for my services—'twas clear  
He thought of something handsome—stopped at fifty pounds  
a year.

I deemed myself professional, and thought I might expect,  
Being always most respectful, some shadow of respect;  
But found that when *en famille* the position that I took  
Was just above the housemaid, but much below the cook.

"You may," said an employer, "be a scientific man,  
And yet not know the treatment for a mangy black-and-tan.  
We don't want cyclopædia who go moping round the shop,  
What we want now is a salesman, not a scientific mop."

And those who're always prattling of the status which we  
hold,  
They talk in vain of ethics while these pennyworths are sold.  
For here's a definition 'fore which ambition halts—  
"A chemist is a *servant* who lives by selling salts."

There's a grocer round the corner who sells patents at a price  
That wouldn't keep a nigger on the very poorest rice,  
And a barber there just opposite who makes a show so fine  
Of all the toilet sundries—he leaves me not a line.

The drapers sell protectors and washing-gloves at cost,  
While what with stores and oilmen the sponge trade new is  
lost.  
So how am I to live then? Am I to box them all,  
And sell all that they're selling on a universal stall?

So now ye great inventive, who revel so in schemes,  
Can you this decide for me, that haunts me in my dreams?  
Can I be still a pharmacist, and run this awful mess  
Of pickles and pomatum, of druggery and dress?

Am I to be a grocer, who does turpentine and tea,  
Or a learned kind of barber who while shaving quotes B.P.?  
Or a scientific oilman who keeps pickles 'long with thread?  
Or a kind of haberdasher who's a pharmacist instead?

And ne'er a body troubles, save some deluded elf  
Who wants a little poison to disendow himself;  
While off and on street urchins throughout the livelong day  
Shout "Squirts O!" in the doorway, then madly run away.

A lot of clockless people call to ask the time of day,  
And quite a host of others think I'm here to tell the way;  
And seemingly I'm rapidly acquiring quite a name,  
For keeping change all day or night—this is a paying  
game!

I'm obliging—most obliging—and I'm always on the spot;  
I'm ready with a lecture if a penny's to be got.  
And oft when I've orated in a grand and thrilling flight,  
My customer's vamoosed it—said he'd call another night.

And so I am weary, despair clings to my soul,  
How can a man be cheerful in this miserable hole?  
Yet look for better season—still hoping for the time  
When the press of paying custom won't allow of further  
rhyme.

WENDROSYN.

## AT THE COUNTER.

A CORNWALL chemist was asked for "Cold Kitchen Wine,"  
when it was ascertained that the beverage was intended as  
a remedy for rheumatism. The chemist knew what to  
supply.

AS DIRECTED.—Old Lady (in drug store to small boy):  
"What am I to take this medicine in, sonny?"  
SONNY.—"Take it in your mouth, mum. 'Taint to be  
rubbed on."—*New York Sun.*

THE next two scenes occurred in Bristol:—

ENTER servant-girl from the country: "Please, sir, I want  
1 lb. yellow ochre." (Chemist proceeds to weigh same.)  
Girl: "'Taint that! It's to make a pudding for a sick  
'ooman." (Chemist supplies tapioca.)

ENTER Irishman: "Good marning, yer honor! What would  
be the price of a bottle this size?" (Picking up a 6-oz. bottle  
from counter-case.) Chemist: "Two-pence; but if you are  
going to have anything put in it 'twill cost 1d." Irishman:—  
"Faith, then, yer honor, shove a cark in." (Exit Paddy  
chuckling.)

"How is it that you charge me fifty cents for this little  
pinch of bicarbonate of soda when you gave me three times  
as much for ten cents yesterday?" Druggist: "We are  
filling a prescription to-day. Suppose we are going to trans-  
late Latin for nothing? My dear sir, you don't seem to  
appreciate what it costs to obtain a classical education.  
Hold on! I've given you oxalic acid. That boy's always  
shifting them bottles around."—*Boston Transcript.*

SIR,—The two following amusing incidents have occurred  
in my shop quite recently. In the first case a young lady  
calls to inquire if we have any "massage," and how it is sold.  
Wanted for a relative suffering from paralysis, who had  
seen massage and electricity recommended in such cases.  
Second case:—Having sold some coated pills, the purchaser  
sends a note to ask if the pills are to be sucked or swallowed.  
Reply:—To be swallowed certainly—sucking optional. The  
natives here, who are only just becoming familiar with coated  
pills, call them "pot" pills.

Yours faithfully,  
WEST RIDING.



## THE "SANITAS" COMPANY, LIMITED, v. GEORGE CONDY.

On October 27, 1887, an injunction was granted, with costs, by the Chancery Division of the High Court of Justice, restraining the Defendant, his servants and agents, from infringing the Company's registered trade-mark "Sanitas" by any use of the term "Sanitas," as applied to deodorant disinfectant, or antiseptic preparations, soaps and like substances, and from advertising or exposing for sale, or selling or procuring to be sold, any deodorant, disinfectant, or antiseptic preparation not of the Company's manufacture, under the name of "Sanitas" or "Sanitar," or "Condi Sanitas," or "Condy's Sanitar," or under any other name of which the word "Sanitas" or "Sanitar," or any compound or colourable imitation of the word "Sanitas," forms part, or from, in any other way, infringing the Company's said trade-mark.

### CAUTION.

All persons are cautioned against committing any infringement of the Company's registered trade-mark "Sanitas," as in all cases of infringement coming to the knowledge of the Company proceedings will be at once instituted for the protection of their rights.

## Friedrichshall.

### THE WELL-KNOWN APERIENT MINERAL WATER.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE.

By reason of an improved method of caption, by which dilution is avoided FRIEDRICHSHALL WATER will be found now to be of CONSIDERABLY GREATER STRENGTH and EFFICACY than heretofore.

The ordinary dose is a large wineglassful (4 ounces) taken fasting. Most efficacious and more acceptable to the palate when heated or mixed with an equal quantity of very hot water.

"After twenty years' use I appreciate it as highly as ever."  
Professor VIRCHOW.

Of all Chemists and Mineral Water Dealers. [2]

### SILICATED CARBON PATENT MOVABLE BLOCK FILTERS.

SEE ADVERTISEMENT, PAGE 29.

**A. M. TODD'S** CRYSTAL WHITE  
DOUBLE REFINED  
**OIL OF PEPPERMINT.** See Advt. on  
page 45.

**Go Advertisers**  
CATALOGUES & PRICE LISTS ILLUSTRATED  
Advert. Blocks Engraved in Best Style  
at Moderate Cost. + + + + + APPLY TO  
**W. BARKER & SON, 172, STRAND, LONDON.**

*A. W. Carter & Co. Ltd*  
*Soluble Essences for Mineral Waters*  
*Old Refinery Bristol*

## WOODHALL SPA

### BROMO IODINE MINERAL WATER.

*The strongest known Iodine Water in the World.*

This remarkable Spa has been purchased by a Syndicate of gentlemen who have determined to make more widely known the extraordinary curative powers of this spring, which contains more Iodine and Bromine than any spring in Europe—"And, we may safely add, in any part of the World."—*Dr. Cuffe, for many years late resident Physician at Woodhall Spa.*

An analysis of the water having been made in November, 1886, by Professor Wanklyn, M.R.C.S., corresponding member of the Royal Bavarian Academy of Sciences, Professor of Chemistry, a very important discovery has been made, viz., the presence of Free or Elementary Iodine.

Dr. Wanklyn says—"So far as I am aware, this is the first instance in which free Iodine has been found in appreciable quantity in a natural water. For many years the Woodhall Spa has been celebrated as a valuable remedy in skin diseases. The fact that it is a solution of free Iodine is interesting in this connection, and well worthy of the attention of the medical profession."

The Woodhall Bromo Iodine Water is now being bottled at the Spring by the sole Agents, BROMLEY & CO., Chemists, 93, High Street, Lincoln, 5 & 6 The Grove, Buxton, and at Woodhall. All communications to be addressed to them at the Spa, Woodhall, Horncastle.

## EDITORIAL NOTES.

### CONCENTRATION IN MEDICINE.

ONE of the greatest of living therapeutists has said that chemistry, by modifying the chemical constitution of organic bodies, will almost certainly enable physicians to treat disease much more perfectly than they can at present. "For such modified drugs," he continues, "physicians must be indebted to the chemist, who will prefer to operate on substances which have already been prepared by himself rather than on crude drugs obtained from the plants." This opinion is being rapidly verified. There is a process of concentration going on which becomes every year more apparent. Nor is it altogether recent. It is nearly a score of years since the prescription for a dozen phials of draughts was a common thing; now more concentrated physic is in vogue. Twenty years ago, too, active principles, fluid extracts and elegant preparations, were on the novelty shelf; now they are the order of the day. There is a third form of concentration in medicine—centralisation we should call it—that is to say, much of the work of pharmacy, that which gives it a quasi-professional aspect, is being diverted into the hands of a few central and energetic houses. There are thus three factors which, either by changing the form of medicines or the channels of supply, are influencing the future of pharmacy.

It would be difficult to say what induced physicians to discard the old-fashioned draughts, capacious bottles of medicine with wine-glassful doses, boluses, bulky powders, and medicaments of that ilk; but patients do not regret the change, and although the pharmacist's profits have diminished thereby, we believe that the loss has been made up by the use of more medicines of a different type. What we consider more serious to pharmacy is that growing tendency on the part of physicians to prescribe medicines in a highly concentrated condition. We hear, for example, of a prescription for a dozen powders, each to be divided into three doses; another for an ounce of a potent liquor to be taken in drops, or



worse, to be diluted with water in a wine-bottle. All this means less work for the pharmacist, consequently less remuneration; but it has been brought about mainly through a too rigid enforcement of the principle that dispensing is a professional duty and deserves professional pay. "The British pharmacist, though a dealer in drugs," wrote the late Daniel Hanbury in one of our early diaries, "is no longer in the position of a mere tradesman; onerous duties are imposed, and ample qualifications are exacted. Under these circumstances it would be unfair to curtail the moderate remuneration he claims." That statement will always hold good, but pharmacists have acted in the belief that their professional position is recognised, whereas generally it is not; and the best proof of this is in the fact that nine-tenths of the medical practitioners of England do their own dispensing, and many look upon pharmacists with distrust. At one time a similar state of affairs existed in Ireland and Scotland, but in these parts of the kingdom the medical profession and pharmacy are on more amicable relations, and these relations are most amicable in cases where the pharmacist's charges are most moderate. There is in England a full and untapped well of work and trade at present in the hands of doctors, which would be sufficient to relieve pharmacy from the hard strain now felt. How is this well to be tapped? By culture, says one section. But pharmacists as a body are a better trained set of men now than they were twenty years ago. Dispensing by doctors is on the increase. By individual action, says another section, and this is the solution of the difficulty. Each individual should endeavour to establish good relations with the doctors in his neighbourhood. If doctors will not write prescriptions, supply them with physic, and use every means to impress them with the fact that the pharmacist is not a mere retailer of drugs and sundries. It would be better even for the pharmacist to do a doctor's dispensing at wholesale prices than that he should do it himself. There are cases in which such procedure has been the foundation of good dispensing businesses.

The second factor which is changing the character of pharmacy is that which the therapist refers to, viz., the modified forms of drugs. The use of alkaloids, fluid extracts, syrups, pills, and compressed medicines is on the increase. Extraneous matter is no longer required; "*cinchona bark minus the woody fibre*" is an expression which we now have the marrow of for nearly all drugs of importance. The use of alkaloids and other active principles need not be referred to at length—we are aiming to get all medicines in that form; whether the aim is a good one or not time will tell. The change regarding purely pharmaceutical preparations is remarkable. From a discussion that took place at the recent meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association we learn that the practice is quite common there of making tinctures from fluid extracts. Here we are tending the same way. Concentrated decoctions and infusions are so popular that the Pharmacopœia authorities have found it necessary to considerably simplify the processes for making the fresh preparations. But the change has had no effect, except that there has been a development in the other direction, one firm having since come forward with special preparations for the manufacture of infusions, decoctions, and tinctures. The idea is to save labour and ensure constancy, and the Pharmacopœia favours it by directing tincture of *nux vomica* to be made from the extract. Ten years ago eleven pharmacists out of a dozen would have condemned the method; ten years after this the Pharmacopœia will direct more preparations to be made in the same way; and so we develop. Even in research the chemist finds it necessary to get the large manufacturer to do his preliminary operations for him. This brings us to the third or centralising factor—specialising, it is generally

called. It has two forms—one the manufacture of mixtures and the like ready for the patient, and the other that of galenical preparations. Both in one sense are a monopolising of the work of the retail pharmacist. The only way to combat any loss which the first class may cause is to imitate the plan—not the mixtures, &c., for it is neither creditable nor profitable to steal other men's brains. The second form will probably become the more potent factor in changing the aspects of pharmacy; much of the progress which it has made is due to the advance of the times; there is a press through which manufacturers appeal to the trade; railways to convey goods quickly, and which by the aid of the telegraph can replenish a stock of a tincture in one day instead of seven. These factors have to be considered by those who look upon the change as a degeneration of pharmacy. To us the whole tendency seems to be a scheme for putting into the retailer's hands only the active constituents of drugs in fluid or other form. He declines to pay carriage on the rubbish. Necessarily he pays for labour which is not his, but he balances that by employing fewer hands. The change on the whole will tend to decrease the number of retail pharmacies, but it is questionable if pharmacists will be the worse for it. The principle upon which the change is based is the improvement of pharmaceutical processes and products, and that improvement must necessarily be appreciated by all ranks.

#### THE NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

THE resolution of the Scottish Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society to admit reporters to their meetings is a somewhat bold step in these days of autocratic government. The Executive received a broad hint in August last that any such step as that which they have now taken would be outside their powers; but the Executive have chosen to ignore that intimation, and have indicated their willingness to give full publicity to their proceedings. Their resolution raises the question whether the Council may dictate to the Executive or not, and the upshot cannot fail to be of more than local interest. The Executive evidently consider that they are not a committee of the Council: in this they are right in so far as the constitution and by-laws of the Society do not authorise the appointment of committees consisting of other than members of the Council. The fact is that the Council authorised a Scottish Executive in anticipation of by-laws which would authorise its existence, and an Executive was appointed on the distinct understanding that it would be a committee of the Council. The mode of electing the Executive is roundabout, but it sufficiently indicates that it is a subordinate body. Voting-papers are issued to the members and associates in business of the Society residing in Scotland. These are duly returned, and the names of those who receive a majority of votes are submitted to the Council, whereupon the fortunate gentlemen are appointed the Scottish Executive. Although this body has only been in existence for a year, there have been two polls, the last one having been expressly made so that in future years the Executive may be appointed by the Council at the same time as other committees of the Council. It is plain, therefore, that the Executive as a committee is on all fours with other committees, and must report to the superior body in the first instance. It is not surprising, perhaps, that the Executive is reluctant to accept this position. Some of its members, and other members of the Society in Scotland, have never been satisfied with the compromise arrived at after the "great rebellion." They think the local body should be more independent, or at least should have a defined share of the work of the Society entrusted to them. At present nearly all that they



do has to be initiated by themselves. They look after the Society's property in Edinburgh, get up evening meetings, nominate examiners, and represent the Society publicly—all for the glory of the Society, and not of themselves. In imperial matters they have no say, except what they have as ordinary members of the Society. For example, the prosecution of the Leith Dépôt Company, and other legal proceedings in Scotland, were instituted without their cognisance—they were not consulted even indirectly or unofficially. The public, however, naturally regarded the Executive as the instigators of the proceedings, and the individual members had to suffer the odium which follows unsuccessful actions. The Executive, by resolving to make its proceedings public, will show their constituents how hollow the whole affair is, and how little their labours are calculated to further the interests of the Society as a whole. Should the Council decide at its next meeting to veto the vote for publicity—and we cannot see how that can be avoided—there will, in all probability, be a reopening of the whole question, followed by a more useful Executive—or disruption.

### THE "SATURDAY REVIEW" ON QUACK MEDICINES.

SINCE we last noticed the series of articles on quack medicines in the *Saturday Review*, that journal has proceeded in its self-imposed battle with the popular remedies of the day with unabated energy, though not with increased accuracy, nor, we imagine, with any appreciable effect on the sales of the medicines implicated. The article in the issue of October 15 dealt with "Clarke's World-Famed Blood Mixture," and after stating that the active ingredients in this medicine are tincture of bark and iodide of potassium, added a terrible passage from Quain on iodism. We do not know how the writer got at his information about the tincture of bark, which does not seem to be one of the ingredients of the medicine in question. Respecting the iodide there is, we believe, no doubt. Mr. Clarke, however, may fairly forgive the terrible picture suggested of the possible effects from his mixture for the sake of the kind support given to his claim for exclusive proprietorship in any blood-purifying titles. "The title," they say, "is an exceedingly valuable one, and has often been infringed and pirated. A 'Blood Renovator' and a 'Purifying Mixture' and various other compounds have been sold by puny imitators bearing the name of Clarke. In these cases, however, the solicitor to the Trade Mark Protection Society came to the rescue of the proprietor, and in every case the pirate was defeated." We should be glad to have chapter and verse for these startling items of legal news.

"Dutch Drops," discussed in the number for October 29, offers no particular interest. The following recipe is given for them:—Linseed oil, 1 quart; resin, 2 lbs.; sulphur, 1 lb.; boil together till combined, and stir in a pint of oil of turpentine and 50 drops of ammonia. This piece of information is cribbed from Beasley. Of course a column of pseudo-clever writing is easily made up on the basis of the old-fashioned prospectus which usually accompanies the bottles of this preparation.

The fifth article of the series treats on solution of chloral, and comments in a generally reasonable tone on the section of the Pharmacy Act which permits poisonous and seductive patent medicines to be sold by any dealer.

The article on Dr. Rooke's Solar Elixir and Oriental Pills which appeared on November 12 is extremely disappointing. It gives a number of quotations from the *Anti-Lancet*, but makes no attempt at giving a formula. The reason is not far

to seek. Beasley's Receipt Book, which appears to be the writer's sheet anchor, does not contain one.

The trusty Beasley provides some vague information about Steedman's Powders, stating that they "appear by analysis to contain calomel, about one grain in each, also a trace of morphia, or sugar." Mr. Steedman himself, however, is said to state on the authority of Dr. Hassall that his powders are free from narcotic. The writer makes it evident that he prefers the testimony of Beasley. Fenning's Children's Cooling Powders are next alluded to, but the writer evidently knows nothing of them except what he can gather from Mr. Fenning's little book, so he confines his remarks to a few general sneers. Next week, however, he is to deal with "Soothing Syrups," "Mothers' Friends," and the like, by which, and by similar preparations, "it is said on good authority and without exaggeration that fifteen thousand children are killed every year!" The note of exclamation is added by us to this quotation. The editor of the *Saturday Review* publishes the assertion with the most simple good faith, and possibly believes that the statistics are obtained from the Registrar-General's returns. It is quite conceivable that in proper hands such articles as this might do some public service; but compiled as they are, without apparently any attempt to verify any statement, they are simply of no account at all.

The quantity of indigo produced annually in San Salvador varies from 9,000 to 15,000 bales of 150 lbs. each. Indigo seeds are sown broadcast, like wheat and oats, and ploughed in. Every seed germinates twice, and thus there are two annual crops. Prices fluctuate greatly and the natives are capricious in their demands and fancies. The crop, as prepared for market, is graded like cotton and wheat in the United States, and the numbers "6," "7," "8," and "9" on the bales define the class or grade to which the bale belongs. The last of the figures designates the best, and the first the lowest grade. The absolute cost of production is about two shillings and eightpence per lb. while in India the cost is stated to be about one shilling. In San Salvador the indigo is cut with *machetes*, instead of reapers. When cut, the indigo is soaked in vats, "puddled," boiled, strained, and dried, and this is all done by the simplest means, and by manual labour. The natives convey the indigo to the market towns in packs on their backs. Samples are spread on mats, beside which the farmer sits awaiting customers, and these are attracted from many parts by the annually recurring indigo fairs of Salvador. These market periods in each city commonly last from eight to fifteen days. The particular saint of each of these indigo markets is specially invoked during the continuance of the sales, and thus the priests and churches share in the profits incidental to these gatherings of the people. The first great indigo fair of the year begins on August 30, at Santa Rosa, the next when the first closes, at Chalatenango, the next at Sesuntepeque, and then follow those, attended by vast numbers of people, at San Miguel, near the harbour of La Union, which begins on the 17th and lasts until the 25th of November. Formerly consumers of indigo in the United States bought and imported their supplies from India through Liverpool or London, but they now buy largely from San Salvador, and instead of four or five hundred bales, as in former years, it is expected that one-sixth of the whole crop of 1887 will be taken by New York and Boston, and by cotton-mill owners of the South. There is an export duty on indigo in Salvador amounting to about 14s. per bale.

\* \*

Whatever may be said for or against prescriptions for common complaints appearing in the Newspaper daily papers, all parties will agree that the remedies proposed should be safe and the prescriptions practicable. This cannot be said of one which a correspondent of a provincial paper quotes from a medical journal for the cure of rattlesnake bite. It is—"Iodide of potass, 4 grains;



corrosive sublimate, 2 grains; bromine, 5 drachms; mix. Keep in a glass-stoppered bottle. Dose, 10 drops in a table-spoonful of brandy, according to symptoms." This prescription is literally an offensive one, and that in other respects than the repugnant stench which it possesses. Our home readers are not, however, at all likely to be called upon to dispense the prescription unless a prodigal rattle-snake happens to wriggle into their neighbourhood.

\* \*

In a note in the *Chemical News* Mr. David Hooper calls attention to the phenomenon of decrepitation, which, he points out, not uncommonly occurs in drying alcoholic extracts of organic substances. For example, when examining the bark of *Michelia Nilagirica*, the tannin was precipitated with cupric acetate, the precipitate well washed and dried in a water oven. When the vessel containing the copper tannate was placed in the open air of the laboratory it soon began to crackle, and ultimately disrupted a shower of fragments covering the counter to a radius of about 12 inches. A similar occurrence was observed with a resin of *Musumbra*, a country-made aloes of India, but when this was carefully dried over sulphuric acid and then heated, no decrepitation occurred when it was exposed to the air. Those who have worked at the evaporation of organic solids will have noticed how frequent decrepitation takes place during the final stages of drying. Mr. Hooper's theory of the phenomenon is that it is similar to what occurs when Rupert's drops disintegrate. The rapid drying of the resin, from a moist to an anhydrous condition, unequally contracts the mass without allowing it an opportunity to assume its natural state when combined with water of hydration. In regaining this water an expansive force is exerted on the exterior portions of the mass, and causes the violent disruption of the particles. This inconvenience might be avoided, he remarks, by the more careful and not too rapid drying of these substances.

\* \*

The British Trichological Association recently met in St. James's Hall, London, to listen to an inaugural address from their President, Mr. G. H. Wheeler, "M.C.H.," of St. Leonards-on-Sea. Trichology, we gather from the address, means the study of the hair, and trichologists, we presume, are scientific hair-dressers. Mr. Wheeler traces the profession back to the days of Joseph, 1718 B.C., who, "when in prison, and sent for by the king, shaved himself." He says that the record of Absalom being polled every year is the earliest mention of hair-cutting. Evidently he has forgotten Samson. But he is very earnest on behalf of us moderns. "As modern trichologists," he says, "we are called upon to make a conscientious and comprehensive study of the pathology of baldness. Although there are at present 17,000 medical men, and 50,000 so-called hairdressers, their treatment has proved practically impotent to prevent, arrest, or modify the progress of this common and disagreeable disorder. Gentlemen," he adds with solemnity, "does this not call aloud for a special class of men to devote their lives to the cause, and so benefit our kind by keeping the hair in a more healthy condition?" Further on he announces that the Trichological Association is endeavouring to establish a hospital for the treatment of hair diseases, under the superintendence of Dr. T. Gurney. There will be a staff of trichologists to undertake all cases. There will be a course of lectures given; also clinical lectures and demonstrations every week—all for the very low fee of five guineas for a term of twelve months. Mr. Wheeler also gave a few interesting statistics about baldness. First he took notes of the scalps of 380 well-to-do gentlemen, between twenty-five and fifty. Of these 92 were bald or getting so. Only 4 of these 92 had ever made a practice of using oil or pomade. But of the 288 others it appears the majority were not quite all they should have been in this direction. Only 49 of them regularly used oil or pomade; 72 used concoctions or lotions supplied to them by hairdressers; 31 used water but not grease; the rest were not regular in their toilets. Out of the 92, 61 were wine-drinkers. This last fact led to other inquiries, which satisfied Mr. Wheeler that, trichologically considered, wine is more injurious than spirits, and that beer is the most harmless drink of all. He also finds from notes that gentlemen get bald more frequently than working-men.

Out of 500 of the former 130 were wholly or partly bald, but only 63 out of 500 working-men were so. He believes this is accounted for by the fact that the latter use grease more freely than their betters.

\* \*

German papers announce the capture, under extraordinary circumstances, of a Mr. Constantin Lindener, formerly partner in a Berlin drug-house, but who absconded some time ago with a sum of money entrusted to his care. In June last, Lindener sold a druggist's business belonging to a friend of his, and received 300*l.* as part of the purchase money. Instead of handing this cash to his friend, Lindener, in company with a Mr. Epstein, decamped, with the intention of settling in America. But after wandering about for some time in Holland and Belgium, they believed themselves free from any danger of discovery, and consequently altered their plans. With 200*l.* of the stolen money they purchased a share in a small restaurant at Laeken, the summer residence of the King of the Belgians, and for a while all went merry as a marriage bell. But presently the two Germans quarrelled with their Belgian partner, the business was dissolved, and legal proceedings taken against the Belgian for restitution of the 200*l.* sunk in his concern. In the meantime the Berlin police had advertised a reward for the apprehension of Lindener, who, happening to see the advertisement himself in Belgium, actually had the impudence, from what he believed to be a safe retreat, to write a mocking and insulting letter to his Berlin victim. Pending the proceedings against their late Belgian partner, Lindener and Epstein decided to temporarily confer upon Great Britain the advantages of their society; but, unfortunately for them, it so happened that just at that time the Belgian police were on the look-out for another party of the name of Epstein, who, wanted by the French police as an alleged German spy, was supposed to contemplate escape *via* Belgium to England. Hearing Lindener address his partner by the name of Epstein, the suspicions of a Belgian detective on duty on board the mail steamer were aroused. He questioned the pair, and asked them for their papers, which they declined to produce. Noticing that the man Lindener, curiously enough, closely answered the description given by the French police of the Epstein wanted by them, the would-be emigrants were arrested. It turned out that neither of the two was the man wanted by the French law officers, and they would have been set at liberty had not one of them in an unguarded moment stated that they belonged to the German capital. As a final measure of precaution the Berlin police were asked if they knew anything about the parties, and then the whole story leaked out. Lindener and Epstein were handed over to the German authorities, and placed upon their trial. Epstein was acquitted, but Lindener was found guilty and sentenced to two years' imprisonment and three years' "loss of citizenship." Only 7*l.* was found upon the two men at the time of their arrest, but the defrauded German druggist expects repayment of the 200*l.* belonging to him which the adventurers invested in the Belgian hotel business.

\* \*

Not all is peace and goodwill in Continental pharmaceutical circles. There is the official journal of the German Apotheker Verein, for instance, a paper which, in spite of persistent attempts to galvanise it into something approaching animation, does not seem able to get free from the official chains which are always so fatal to newspaper enterprise. This organ is perpetually at loggerheads with its "non-official" competitors, one of which is the most popular and influential of German pharmaceutical periodicals; another, the "Süd-deutsche Apotheker Zeitung," being, in title, appearance, and contents, a rather imperfect imitation of that popular periodical. The feud between the official journal and the lower non-official print reached its climax the other day, when proceedings at law were instituted by the latter against the official organ, for stating that much of the matter appearing in the correspondence columns of the "Süddeutsche Apotheker Zeitung" was manufactured in the office of that journal itself, instead of being the *bona-fide* opinion of its subscribers. And such things happen in Germany!



**Prescription** In Germany at present there is a movement on foot, led by Dr. Esmarch, for the reform of the language of prescriptions. Latin is no longer wanted, and a pharmaceutical lexicon is being prepared for the use of doctors and pharmacists, so as to assist them in prescribing and making up prescriptions in the tongue understood by the people. It is not quite clear why a lexicon should be specially prepared for this purpose. The *Lancet*, in commenting upon this, remarks "that the best and most natural result of the reform in prescribing will be to leave the body of the prescription in its present convenient though antique form, and to ensure the most accurate observance of instructions to the patient by expressing these in the language of everyday life." The reform which pharmacists have most strenuously urged is not a change of language, for the dog-Latin of prescriptions they have generally been able to master, but an improvement in hand writing. A large proportion of medical prescriptions are written in most execrable style. Last week, for example, a correspondent sent us a prescription which he had submitted to two leading London houses, and both failed to decipher it. We found that it was written by an Aberdeen physician, and although *Mistura Quinia Ph. Ab.* was the article prescribed, the abbreviated words were written so that those only who were familiar with the prescriber's handwriting and his medicines would be sure of their meaning. It is a noteworthy fact that many of the leading physicians write plainly and neatly. This was especially the case with the late Dr. Warburton Begbie, who wrote the ingredients of his prescriptions in unabbreviated Latin, and the directions in English.

\* \*

**An Expiring Patent.** On February 17, 1874, an English agent of Professor Hermann Kolbe, of Leipzig, was granted a patent in this country for "Improvements in the production of salicylic acid, and of the isomeric and homologous acids." The statutory period of fourteen years, during which a patentee is allowed to reap the harvest of his brains, will soon be completed, and it is expected that this circumstance will have a considerable influence on the commercial position of the acid. It will be recollected that this patent was the subject of an expensive lawsuit in 1879, when the case Von Heyden v. Neustadt occupied Vice-Chancellor Bacon for ten days. Dr. Von Heyden, who manufactured the acid by Kolbe's process in Germany, sought to restrain the defendant Neustadt from importing into and selling in this country salicylic acid, manufactured by a process identical with Kolbe's, and for which a patent had been granted in Germany. This was not denied by the plaintiff, but on his behalf it was alleged by counsel and experts that Kolbe's process was well known for many years before it was patented in this country. Kolbe first announced in 1860 that he had succeeded in preparing salicylic acid artificially by acting upon phenol with metallic sodium, simultaneously subjecting the mixture to the action of carbonic acid gas. This process was known to chemists as a beautiful one for experimental or lecture-table purposes, but no one would have dreamed of working it on a commercial scale, nor did Kolbe. But when in 1874 there seemed to be a widening outlet for salicylic acid as an antiseptic, he was ready with a modification of his process, which simply consisted of substituting caustic soda for metallic sodium. It was this new process which was patented in this country, and which was the basis of the action against Messrs. Neustadt & Co. In this action Dr. von Heyden was successful, and since April 1879 only Kolbe's salicylic acid, and its compounds, have been used in this country. Consequently the manufacturers could fix their own prices, and they have done so. The expiry of the patent will affect this, whether it be on account of the probable manufacture of the acid in this country, or through the importation of the products of other foreign makers. By one way or the other it is almost certain that the coming year will show a substantial fall in the price of salicylic acid.

\* \*

**"Cutting"** "Cutting," it seems, is not confined to chemists. Doctors. Medical practitioners, who are generally supposed to be the most upright of men, and the least liable to the influence of gold—how this idea originated we know not—have become animated by the spirit of the

times. It is lamentable to think, says the *Lancet*, that the feelings, if not the circumstances, of medical men in some places have sunk so low that they underbid for appointments. This remark is caused by the fact that when one man was appointed club doctor it was decided that he should receive 3s. per annum per member—i.e. 2s. a year less than should be paid to club surgeons—but another made an offer to do the work at a cheaper rate—viz. 2s. In another instance the services of a gentleman as medical officer of health were required by the local board. The appointment was advertised at a salary of 20l. a year. The feeling in favour of the resident gentleman was well known; but a tempting offer was sent in to take the duties for 6l., which, however, was not accepted.

\* \*

#### Hypnotism and Medicine.

Recently there has been a considerable amount of excitement in Paris, which has feebly extended to this country, owing to experiments upon hysterical patients by M. Luys, who by applying sealed tubes of medicines to their bodies produced all the physiological effects of the medicines. Others have tried the experiments but have failed. Some account of the failures has been given by M. Constantin Paul. He states that with a bottle of alcohol uncorked, and evidently smelt by the patient (a sensitive subject), staggering was produced. In another instance, a bottle supposed to contain cherry-laurel water produced effects usually caused by this drug, but it was discovered that the chemist had made a mistake, and that the bottle contained water only. Half-a-dozen other experiments gave similar results. Another experimenter states that on applying an empty tube to the neck of one of his subjects, and leading her to suppose it contained alcohol, she immediately showed signs of intoxication. The characteristic effects of other drugs were produced in succession, the patient thinking they were applied, whereas the empty tube was each time substituted. The experiments were repeated two months later with the same results.

\* \*

#### Science and Politics.

One of the political sensations of the week has been provided by *Nature* in consequence of the election of Professor Stokes, the president of the Royal Society, as member of Parliament for Cambridge University. Hitherto the *savants* of Burlington House have eschewed politics, but *Nature* sees danger ahead if a professed politician presides over the society. It is true that Sir Isaac Newton was M.P. and P.R.S. at the same time, but partisan feeling was not so strong in his day as it is now. Apparently Professor Stokes's conduct is considered very serious, for we are told that "the society is now at the parting of the ways. Either it will continue its beneficent work for untold ages to come, untroubled by the transitory political and social storms raging around it; or, headed by politicians pledged to serve their party, it will gradually be dragged down into the miserable slough in which no capacity seems proof against the temptation to sophistical special pleading, and no character strong enough to refuse degrading subserviency to party exigencies." This tall writing has had its effect. The daily press has taken up the case, and it is reported that at the approaching anniversary meeting of the society Professor Stokes will resign the presidential chair. It is as well to mention that his predecessor in the chair was Professor Huxley, and that Professor Tyndal is one of the leading lights of the society. We presume that they are not to be ranked as party men.

ACCORDING to the *Bat*, the third son of the Earl of Munster has just married the daughter of a local chemist at Brighton. The Earl, who spends most of his time at his house in Palmeira Square, has issued a notice, declaring that he will be responsible for none of his son's debts, and that not even a letter or parcel is to be addressed to the parental abode. The young gentleman who has just tied himself up in the holy bonds of matrimony against his father's wishes and his family's ideas is only twenty-three. He is a sandy-haired youth, who distinguished himself a short time ago in the local police court by incurring a fine of 5l. for assaulting Captain Elwood.



## FRENCH PHARMACEUTICAL NEWS.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

**THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF HYGIENE AND DEMOGRAPHY.**—The next meeting will be held in London in 1891, so that Parisians may have a congress of their own during the international exhibition to be held in 1889.

**PHARMACIST SISTERS.**—The sisters of St. Vincent de Paul now attending the pharmacy attached to the Bureau de Bienfaisance of the fourteenth arrondissement, in the Gobelins quarter, have received notice that their services as pharmacists will not be required after December 30 next.

**IMPORTATION OF IODINE AND BROMINE.**—By Presidential decree, promulgated on November 18, the importation of iodine and bromine is to be allowed to be made henceforth through the Paris custom-house, as well as through the custom-houses already designated for importing these chemicals, under the temporary admission regulation.

**A FIRE** broke out last week, early Wednesday morning, in the laboratory of the School of Medicine, Rue Vanquelin, near Pasteur's laboratory. It occurred in Dr. Richet's cabinet, and was caused by a drying-oven heated with gas. The laboratories containing much inflammable material, several hours were necessary to extinguish the fire. The damages are estimated at 100,000*fr.*, several valuable apparatuses and collections having been destroyed.

**MARSEILLES WANTS TO BE AN EDUCATIONAL CENTRE.**—The Marseilles Municipal Council have again been petitioning for their School of Medicine and Pharmacy to be turned into a Faculty, and that the faculties of law and letters, now at Aix, be transferred to the old Phocean city. They offer to pay the cost; but Aix (an old Roman city twenty miles from Marseilles) is doing her best to keep her faculties.

**A CONGRESS ON TUBERCULOSIS.**—A congress to investigate human and animal tuberculosis is to take place from July 25 to July 31, 1888, in the buildings of the Paris Faculty of Medicine. A preliminary organisation has been effected, with Professor Chauveau as president, Professor Villemin, vice-president, and a number of eminent scientists and professors in faculties of medicine and veterinary colleges. All physicians and veterinarians, French or foreign, may, on paying 10 francs, become members and join in the proceedings. They will also be entitled to a copy of the transactions to be published.

**POISONED BY STALE PARTRIDGE.**—At Charlieu (Loire), on November 12, a somewhat uncommon poisoning case occurred. Mme. X., a stewardess in a hotel, was preparing for the spit a partridge, rather "high," when a thigh-bone, broken by a shot, protruded and slightly wounded her hand. After a few hours painful swelling set in, which soon spread to the arm and part of the shoulder. A physician, being hastily called in, found the injury present all the symptoms of an anatomical wound, such as are observed in dissecting-rooms. Notwithstanding all his efforts the patient was taken with convulsive shivering, nausea, and delirium, and soon expired, after intense suffering.

**FRENCH PHARMACISTS IN BELGIUM.**—Very seldom, it appears, does a French pharmacist apply for permission to practise in Belgium. Such request having been made by a pharmacist of the first class to the Belgian Minister of Public Instruction, the case was referred to the proper commission on pharmaceutical practice. The committee, considering that the French programme comprehends all the subjects mentioned in the Belgian, and imposes certain requirements not obligatory in Belgium, the degree of A.B. among them, reported in favour of granting the petition, which was done. But, on the strength of this precedent, a little later on a French pharmacist of the second class asked for a like permission. The same commission, after duly examining the matter, reported that the diploma of pharmacist of second class is insufficient, owing both to its form (limiting the practice to one French department) and its intrinsic value. They advised, therefore, that the authorisation be withheld. The request of the petitioner to be permitted to practise, after passing a supplementary examination was likewise refused.

## NEW COMPANIES.

**THE NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS ASSOCIATION (LIMITED).**—Capital, 175,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Object—To purchase the property of the American Exhibition (Limited), and to hold an exhibition thereat, or at any other place, the products being not necessarily limited to any country.

**THE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital, 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Object—To acquire and work the Cellier-Parkes process of photographing in colours. The rights for this purpose will be purchased from the Cellieriers Syndicate (Limited). The directors, among whom is G. Augustus Sala, will not be remunerated until the shareholders have received a dividend of 7 per cent.

**THE ANTILLES PRODUCE COMPANY (LIMITED).**—Capital, 75,000*l.*, in shares of 10*l.* each. Object—To carry on the business of Messrs. Anderson, Bovar & Co., of 4 Fenchurch Avenue, E.C., and also as manufacturers of lime-juice cordial and tamarind zest, now carried on by the above-mentioned firm and by George Henry Irish, of Montserrat, under the name of the "Antilles Produce Company." The first directors of the company are John Macdonald Cameron, M.P., Hugh John Anderson, J. Andrew Macdonald Bovar, and George Henry Irish. The appointment of either of the last-named three will last while he holds one-seventh share of the fully paid-up capital of the company. Mr. Cameron's appointment will also last as long as he holds debenture shares in the company.

**"MELLIN'S FOOD" COMPANY FOR INDIA (LIMITED).**—Capital, 30,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Object—To purchase the goodwill of Gustav Mellin in the Indian business in "Mellin's Food," and "Lacto-Glycose" and the various food inventions as carried on by him, and to manufacture and sell the said food, and to acquire the secrets, trade-marks, registered designs, and right to manufacture "Mellin's Food" and "Lacto-Glycose" for sale in India; and to extend the business in India, Burmah, the Native Indian States, Ceylon, and all the territories under the control of the Government of India. The first subscribers are:—D. S. Kemp, F.C.S., 27 Coverdale Road, W.; R. Osbeston, 14 Burtfield Road, Catford, Kent; J. J. Pilley, F.C.S., Denmark Place, S.E.; G. Mellin, Wickham Hall, West Wickham; W. Potter, 23 Kyverdale Road, Stoke Newington; E. Bliss, 285 Milkwood Road, Herne Hill; A. Bliss, railway secretary, Sydenham. Each with one share. The first directors are D. S. Kemp, John J. Pilley, and Gustav Mellin. The qualification of a director shall be the holding in his own right of 200*l.* in the capital of the company. The directors, except Gustav Mellin, shall be entitled to receive for their remuneration out of the funds of the company in each year the fixed sum of 250*l.* and 10 per cent. of the net profits after a distribution to the shareholders of 10 per cent., and in this latter remuneration Gustav Mellin shall participate.

## Obituary.

**GASS.**—On November 17, at King Street, Whitehaven, George Muncaster Gass, chemist's assistant. Aged 23.

**JAMESON.**—On November 19, at Hastings, and of Baker Street, London, Robert Barclay Jameson. Aged 36.

**ROOKE.**—William Foster Rooke, M.D., the son of the late Dr. Charles Rooke, originator of the Solar Elixir Specialities, died recently at the Manor House, Grange-in-Borrowdale, Keswick. The deceased gentleman studied medicine at the Edinburgh University, where he graduated as M.D. in 1856; in the year previous he had become a licentiate of the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh, and later he qualified as M.R.C.S. Eng., and L.S.A. On the death of his father, in 1872, Dr. Rooke became sole proprietor of his specialities, and he has since carried on the business. Some years ago he purchased an estate in Borrowdale, on which there is a palatial residence, and here he resided during a considerable portion of each year. The deceased gentleman, whose wife predeceased him, was in his 54th year. His business will be carried on by his executors on behalf of his children.



## A FEW INDIAN STATISTICS.

A RECENT statistical abstract relating to British India contains a mass of interesting information concerning our great dependency, and is well worth the perusal of anyone who is not afraid of three hundred closely-printed pages of statistics. The total population of India, according to the census of 1881, was 253,982,595 (including 55,191,742 in the native states), occupying an area of 1,378,044 square miles; the density of population in the provinces under direct British control being more than 25 per cent. greater than in the native States. As might be expected, a larger number of people are employed in agriculture than in any other branch of occupation; the next largest section being formed by those engaged in industrial pursuits. Chemical industries give employment to 81,033 workers, 19,813 of whom are women. No less than 762,787 persons (including 273,169 women) are engaged in the collection and preparation of gums and resins. The shellac industry, which is classed in one category with ivory, bone, &c., occupies 107,996 people, but in this branch women are more than twice as numerous as men. One solitary individual among what orators call the "teeming millions" is classified as a worker in surgical instruments; but on the other hand "physicians, surgeons, and druggists" are well to the fore, their combined number being 188,818, of whom 113,579 are males.

The value of the sea-borne imports into British India (excluding Government stores and treasure) was 518,115,800 Rs. in 1886, against 531,493,110 Rs. the year before, but the latter figure, it should be added, was far above the usual average. Besides the sea imports, goods to the value of 49,916,030 Rs. in 1886, 53,314,030 Rs. in 1885, and 53,142,510 Rs. in 1884, were carried into British India overland. Among the imports by sea occur the following items directly or indirectly connected with the drug trade:—

	1884	1885	1886
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Drugs and Medicines .. ..	362,8440	358,2780	340,0830
Dyes .. ..	251,4220	214,9520	225,7180
Glass, and Manufactures of ..	560,0620	499,7010	505,3040
Gums and resins .. ..	115,6770	98,8070	96,9900
Quicksilver .. ..	40,1080	10,9430	23,5610
Oils .. ..	654,2270	1,229,4960	961,1300
Paints and Colours, &c. ..	239,2440	204,9640	214,8060
Perfumery .. ..	61,0120	66,2700	55,7110
Spices .. ..	557,1090	602,1650	718,6780

The following are among the exports:—

	1884	1885	1886
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Drugs and Medicines .. ..	134,2990	199,4950	192,6050
Dyes: Indigo .. ..	4,640,9910	4,068,9070	3,783,1600
Other (except Lac) .. ..	272,5920	347,2240	469,3690
Gums and Resins .. ..	397,2010	361,8890	493,1780
Lac (Dye, Shell, &c.) .. ..	556,7530	599,9820	586,6100
Oils .. ..	520,4740	564,7460	412,1930
Opium .. ..	11,294,4600	10,882,6060	10,735,5180
Spices .. ..	400,9300	514,5800	528,5670

For Government account 130,960 Rs. worth of drugs and medicines were also imported into India in 1886, against 152,280 Rs. in 1885, and 141,330 Rs. the year before.

The opium tax, which forms nearly one-sixth of the entire revenue of British India, yielded a slight increase, after having been on the decline since 1881. During the financial year under review 89,425,150 Rs. were obtained from this source, against 88,167,690 Rs. in 1885. For export 50,994 chests Bengal opium were sold, representing an average value of about 1,234 Rs., and on March 31, 1887, there were 73,016 chests left in store for export and excise purposes.

The work of the Indian post office increases yearly by leaps and bounds. In 1886, 216,145,796 letters passed through that department, together with 20,341,814 newspapers. These figures show an increase of nearly 100 and 125 per cent. respectively since 1877. The Indian savings banks hold deposits to the extent of 50,490,693 Rs., of which three-fourths belongs to natives. There are now 13,390 miles of railroad

in the country, which in 1886 carried 88,436,318 passengers and 19,576,365 tons of goods; 2,306,876 messages were despatched over the 27,510 miles of telegraph now in existence. At the University of Calcutta the faculty of medicine is rapidly declining, only 82 candidates—of whom 45 passed—having been examined in 1886, while in 1877 the number was still 287. The medical students now go to Bombay, where 136 were passed in 1886, out of a total of 208; and to Madras, where 71 passed out of 116 examined.

An astonishing amount of ravage is wrought in British India every year by wild beasts and snakes. The number of persons killed by these animals is actually greater now than it was a decade ago, and numbered in 1885 no less than 22,907. Venomous snakes are responsible for nine-tenths of the cases, tigers coming a bad second. In 1885, 224,124 Rs. were paid as reward for the destruction of 23,670 wild beasts and 420,044 snakes.

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN CONSULS' REPORTS.

## CHINA.

## Ginger Preserving at Hong Kong.

Though most of the preserved ginger sold at Hong Kong is made in Canton, a considerable quantity, which is steadily increasing, is now prepared in the colony itself. The process is simple. After first boiling the fresh root until it becomes soft, it is punctured all over with a fork, and then boiled in syrup until the proper consistence is obtained, when it is placed in jars for market. Other fruit and vegetables are preserved in substantially the same manner, holes being pricked into them to allow the syrup in which they are boiled to penetrate them in every part. A favourite preserve is made of small oranges, called *cumquats*. The fruit is preserved whole, after being scraped all over to free the essential oil from its containing vesicles. It is then punctured and boiled. Young bamboo shoots are largely preserved, as are snap-beans, tomatoes, and most of the vegetable roots.

## Hints to Exporters.

In the numerous native shops every foreign article—useful or useless—is to be found; but, in the majority of cases, cheap imitations take the place of genuine articles. Imported into Hong Kong by the ton, sold by auction, and sent up by the agents of the native shops, ignorant and careless in regard of maker and guarantee of goodness, these imitations pass into the hands of the country visitors, but until a better class of goods is supplied they are scarcely likely to command a continued and increasing demand; and in the interests of foreign manufacturers it could be wished that foreign tradesmen could be induced to settle down to supply, not the wholesale dealers, but the retail purchasers. It might be a struggle at first, for the competition would be keen, and the opposition bitter; but a few good shops, which supplied good articles

## Go-ahead Chemists.

only, would be certain, after a time, to do a good and profitable business. Foreign chemists have already found out that it is not to the foreign communities in China that they have to look for their customers; and the fortunes many storekeepers have made in China have been due more to their sales to natives than to their countrymen.

It will not be a pleasant life to cultivate this trade, for the shops must be situated in the native quarter; it will be to some extent risky, for insurance would at first be impossible, and the shops would be exposed to the dangers of arson and robbery; but, the preliminary difficulties overcome, there is probably better promise of making money than there is in the established grooves—there are sufficient foreign merchants, but there are no shopkeepers. It must be remembered, also, that there is a growing taste for foreign articles; few houses will be found without a foreign lamp, a foreign clock, and probably some articles of glassware, and the numerous native stores for the sale of foreign articles, into which foreigners never go, show the extent of the business.

## DUTCH COLONIES.

*Java Indigo.* The indigo crop of 1886 was satisfactory, both as regards quality and quantity. During the year 612,000 kilos. were exported from Batavia, against



601,000 kilos. in 1885, and an average export of 422,000 kilos. from 1880 to 1884. The high prices which ruled at the commencement of 1886 could not be maintained, and the season closed at decidedly lower rates than the one preceding. Prices, in fact, were so low that the planters would not sell outright, but preferred to ship the bulk of the crop to Holland for their own account. The finest varieties are becoming more and more scarce. The 1887 crop does not look favourable as regards quantity, having suffered from excessive rains and insects.

*Spice Ex-ports.* The following figures relate to the quantities of the principal descriptions of spices exported from Batavia:—

	Average		1885	1886
	1875-9	1880-4		
Cassia .. .. kilos.	30,900	71,000	4,800	10,000
Cloves .. .. "	150,000	45,000	42,000	37,000
Mace .. .. "	203,000	87,000	10,000	3,130
Nutmegs .. .. "	425,000	280,000	160,000	42,000

The falling-off in the exports of cloves, mace, and nutmegs is not due to the decrease in the production but to direct exports from the producing islands (Amboina for cloves, Banda for mace and nutmegs) to Singapore and to Holland direct. Cassia is the produce of the islands of Flores and Timor, east of Java.

*Lampung Pepper.* In the Lampung districts of Sumatra the export of pepper in 1886 was almost treble that of the preceding year, the figures being: 1886, 2,487,000 kilos.; 1885, 970,000 kilos.; average of 1875 to 1884, 1,370,000 kilos. Of the shipments, Holland receives 30½ per cent., Italy 25 per cent., Singapore 18½ per cent., Trieste 14 per cent., and France 12 per cent. White pepper is exported in very small quantities; in 1886 2,500 kilos., mostly from Bencoolen, were shipped to Singapore.

#### HAITI (SAN DOMINGO).

*Logwood.* The logwood trade has been much depressed lately, mainly in consequence of excessive competition. There is a very good demand, larger in fact than the supply, for the better varieties of logwood. In consequence a good deal of inferior wood is brought down from the interior, and these shipments give rise to claims on the part of the receivers in Europe. The exports from Haiti fell from 293,548,750 lbs. in 1885 to 273,526,277 lbs. in 1886. The decrease is principally owing to reckless destruction of the woods and to the haste with which young trees are felled before they have attained maturity, and by the wretched condition of the roads in the island, which are never repaired, and have now become so bad that it is impossible to bring down the fine trees which are still found plentifully in the interior. In the coast districts there is no wood left.

*Cocoa.* The cultivation of the cocoa plant is steadily increasing, the high prices which have lately prevailed in Europe having caused many farmers to take up this industry. If proper attention were paid to the cultivation the island could produce an excellent quality of cocoa, but as it is, the gathering and treatment are most carelessly effected, the beans being brought to market mixed with earth and imperfectly dried. The crop in 1886 was only a medium one—3,304,305 lbs. were exported against 3,156,957 lbs. in 1885. On the local markets the average price is about 34s. per cwt.

#### TAHITI.

*Trade of Tahiti.* About 40 per cent. of the imports into Tahiti are of American, 20 per cent. of British, and 18 per cent. of French origin; but a good many British goods are imported *via* San Francisco, Hamburg, and Bordeaux.

There do not appear to be any complaints as to quality of English goods or execution of orders. This fact may be accounted for by the small number of agents in England who buy for the Tahiti market, and who are well posted in the trade requirements of the island.

It is not probable that there will be any great extension of British trade with the islands; but unless some prohibitive

legislation, such as that proposed by the last Conseil-General, comes into force, there will always be as much demand for English goods as at present.

#### TUNIS.

*Condition of the Country.* In a country which, like Tunis, depends for its commercial prosperity on the productions of the soil, there is little change from year to year in the totals of its exports and imports, unless a year of drought should cause the failure of the crops. Such a calamity has not befallen the land since France took it under her protection in 1881. In spite, however, of the continuance of agricultural prosperity, the trade of Tunis languishes, commercial failures are of unusual frequency, and small merchants find it increasingly difficult to obtain credit.

*British Trade.* England continues to occupy the first place in the imports. Her pre-eminence is due to the cheapness and excellence of the products of Manchester and Glasgow. What is chiefly needed to give a stimulus to British import trade is the establishment of direct steam communication with Liverpool, which would permit of the introduction of British goods at cheaper freights. English commercial firms might then hope to sell in Tunis many articles which are at present hardly known in the Regency.

*The Cork Forests.* The forests of Tunis cover an appreciable part of the surface of the country, and their care has been placed under the management of a separate department by the French.

The explorations of the new department have resulted in the division of the forests into two main groups; one consisting of the cork tree and deciduous oak, locally known as "Zen," covering the north western angle of Tunis where it abuts on the Algerian frontier and the sea, inhabited by the Kroumirs, and separated from the rest of Tunis by the river Mejerdah. These trees grow in a stratum of sandstone, which again reposes on the upper chalk, and they completely disappear where the latter stratum crops to the surface. They cover an area of about 360,000 acres, on 330,000 acres of which flourishes the cork tree, and on 30,000 the "zen." It is found that the former invariably grow on the southern slopes of the mountains; the latter on the northern slopes and in the hollows of valleys.

*Red Gum Trees.* The French railway company which owns the line running from Tunis to the Algerian frontier, has succeeded in planting a considerable number of the eucalyptus resinifera (red gum trees) and acacia cyanophylla. It is estimated that 300,000 trees have been planted along the line of railway. The cost of planting an acre with the eucalyptus amounts to 20l., about 1,600 trees going to the acre of nursery ground. After planting out, it is probable that at the end of twenty years 600 trees will have survived, worth 8s. apiece. The bark of the acacia cyanophylla is rich in tannin, and valuable for the tanner.

*Salable Drugs and Chemicals.* The total value of drugs and chemicals imported during 1886 was 25,643l., but there are no detailed figures given of the imports from the different nations trading with Tunis, and only this much can be said with certainty, that, in the general imports, Great Britain occupies the first, and France the second, place. The Germans have made many unavailing efforts to gain a footing in the drug and chemical line. There is scarcely any industry extant in Tunis in which chemical products can find employment, and the consumption is therefore limited to a few articles only. Painters' colours, ultramarine (but only the cheapest qualities, powdered and in ball form), indigo, and incense, are the only articles which are employed largely, and which it will pay to import direct. Most other goods are taken in small quantities, and can only be imported economically assorted with other goods. The same is the case with pharmaceutical articles. The laboratories of the Tunisian pharmacies are generally of a very primitive character, and, wherever possible, the pharmacist prefers to buy the preparations put up ready for sale. Manufacturing firms and wholesalers who sell crude products only have therefore little chance of doing a large trade, but not so firms who, in addition to quinine, iodine, magnesia, &c., also offer specialties, such as mustard plasters, fluid preparations, and patent medicines of all varieties.



## Trade Notes.

THE agents in this country for M. Hoff's malt extract have shown us the correspondence they had with the Board of Inland Revenue, from which it appears that it may be sold *either* with a beer licence or as a patent medicine. As all sold here is stamped by the maker, it therefore follows that it can be sold by any licensed patent-medicine vendor.

MESSRS. S. RATTI & CO., of 3 Jeffreys Square, St. Mary Axe, the proprietors of Meuphrosine, a non-opiate remedy for sleeplessness, inform us that as this is now being prescribed in some quarters by physicians, they are making a considerable reduction to chemists who buy it for dispensing purposes by giving a larger quantity for the same price.

R. CRESSWELL & CO. (LIMITED), SPONGE MERCHANTS.—We understand that letters of allotment in this company were posted on November 23. Mr. R. Cresswell is the managing director of the company, Mr. Fred W. Honischer, London and Smyrna, is chairman, and Messrs. Leonidas J. Cuppa, London and Constantinople, and Harry Magnus, Ingatstone, Essex, are the other directors. Mr. Edward W. Palin is secretary.

MR. FRIDR. JOBST, wholesale druggist and chemical manufacturer, announces that the quinine and chemical works at Feuerbach, the wholesale drug business at Stuttgart, and the branch house at Milan, hitherto carried on by him, have been incorporated with the firm of Conrad Zimmer, in Frankfort-on-Maine. The heads of the different branches, including Dr. O. Hesse, the manager of the Feuerbach Quinine Works, have transferred their services to the new firm.

MESSRS. ZIMMER & CO., of Frankfort-on-Maine, make an announcement in similar terms. The wholesale drug branch carried on by Mr. Jobst at Stuttgart has been transferred to Frankfort-on-Maine, but the two quinine works at Feuerbach and Frankfort and the branch house at Milan will continue working as before. The firm will continue to manufacture quinine under the brands "Jobst" and "Zimmer."

## Notes of Novelties.

### ROBINSON'S "PUNCHINE."

MR. B. ROBINSON, of Pendleton, Manchester, adds this to his many tempting beverages, as a non-intoxicating winter drink, with a name sufficiently suggestive of the "flowing bowl" to make it attractive. It is a combination of fruit and aromatic flavours with sufficient ginger syrup to give it body and wholesomeness. The style in which it is put up is all that can be desired in the way of effectiveness.

### THE "VIKING" FOOD DELICACIES.

THE "Viking," Food and Essence Company (Limited), who have taken over the business in Kopf's Consolidated Soups, have added a number of preparations, which in respect of internal quality and external appearance will be hard to beat. They have a special "Viking" brand of Liebig's Extract of Meat, which is notable for really fine flavour; they put up a series of essences (beef, veal, mutton, chicken, and turtle) in tins, and in the modern and much more elegant form of glasses. These are well adapted for chemists' sale, and are not only very strong but are also remarkably palatable. The company also put up real turtle and consommé soups in concentrated form and in elegant glass vessels. The "Viking" sauce, which is put up in square 8-oz. bottles, effectively labelled, is of fine flavour, and will be sure to secure popularity. It is produced to sell at 6d., and if chemists were to take up the sale as they are asked to do, they might push a good article with credit and advantage to themselves.

## Trade Report.

*Notice to Retail Buyers:—It should be remembered that the quotations in this section are invariably the lowest net cash prices actually paid for large quantities in bulk. In many cases allowances have to be added before ordinary prices can be ascertained. Frequently goods must be picked and sorted to suit the demands of the retail trade, causing much labour and the accumulation of rejections, not all of which are suitable, even for manufacturing purposes.*

*It should also be recollected that for many articles the range of quality is very wide.*

42 CANNON STREET, E.C., November 24.

A FAIRLY satisfactory volume of business has been transacted during the present week, but in only a very few articles have alterations of importance taken place. The principal of these is quinine, which has advanced 2d. per oz. for German brands since last week, or 4d. per oz. from the bottom price to which it fell at the beginning of the month. It is, however, too early yet to judge whether the improvement is likely to be a lasting one, especially as during the present year the article has repeatedly rallied, only to fall lower than ever before. Opium shows signs of weakness, and there are evidently some holders of morphia who begin to feel uneasy whether after all the position of the opium market is quite so unassailable as it has been painted. Lively speculation in the copper market has caused a further rise in sulphate of copper, and camphor, in common with most Chinese articles, appears to make solid improvement. On the other hand, citric acid is in a languishing condition, and fine cream of tartar somewhat less scarce. We hear of more business in cod-liver oil, and a firmer market in saffron. Shellac and gambier keep steady, fixed oils are mostly dearer, but spices-weak. To-day's gum auctions passed without material alteration.

The postponement of last week's drug auctions from Thursday to Friday precluded us from reporting in detail the result of the sales. They passed off very quietly, the room being rather less crowded than usual, and only a small proportion of the parcels offered was sold. Cardamoms made an advance of about 2d. per lb., musk fetched abnormally at high rates, rhubarb sold very well, and for the better qualities of vanilla more money was also paid. Ordinary vanilla, however, sold cheaply. Senna may also be described as slightly weaker, and ipecacuanha declined from 2d. to 3d.

Notwithstanding the druggists' protests and the implied promise by one of the selling brokers on November 1 that steps would be taken to satisfactorily settle the question, a considerable quantity of vanilla was again included in last Friday's drug sales. A somewhat acrimonious discussion ensued between the druggists and the brokers, in the course of which the representative of Messrs. Lewis & Peat (who generally offer the largest quantity of vanilla) disclaimed all responsibility for his *confrère's* promise, and announced his intention to adhere to the present mode of selling vanilla in the drug auctions. By way of protest several of the wholesale druggists left the room when the vanilla was offered, and there, for the present, the matter rests, "no compromise" being evidently the watchword.

Last Saturday imperial sanction was given to the new Russian Customs Law, by which a duty is imposed on plants, flowers, and any portions of seed-plants, as well as upon plants and portions of plants used for medicinal purposes. The new law also raises the duty on cloves, cinnamon, pepper, ginger, and other articles. The Russian Consulate here is still without detailed information upon the subject.

The validity of the German patent under which lanolin is manufactured forms the subject of a law suit which will, according to German contemporaries, come up for final judgment before the Imperial Court at Berlin next month. In October, 1882, Dr. Otto Braun obtained a patent in Germany (No. 22,516) for the purification and separation of wool-fat and its manufacture into an aqueous combination. Under



this patent Messrs. B. Jaffé and Darmstädter are the sole manufacturers of lanolin (Liehreich), and for the last two years they have been engaged in a legal contest with the firm of J. D. Riedel, whom they accuse of infringement of their rights. Mr. Riedel, on the other hand, sues for the annulment of the Lanolin patent.

The negotiations for the amalgamation of the East and West India and London and St. Katharine's Dock Companies, which have been pending for a considerable time, are likely to bear fruit at last. It is announced that a Bill for the amalgamation of the two concerns will be presented to Parliament next session, and the shares of both companies have risen in the market. The negotiations are not as yet, it is said, in a very advanced stage, but should they lead to a satisfactory result, the possibility is that the landing and dock charges on produce may be materially altered.

Under the name of "Mamona" oil two cases of fixed oil were offered at the drug sales last Friday. The oil was probably castor-oil, with which it was certainly identical in taste and appearance. It was brought to London by Marseilles steamer. The name "mamona" does not occur in any works on oils or oil seeds which we have had an opportunity of consulting.

The Franco-Chinese commercial treaty which has recently come into operation opens to French trade two or three important Chinese towns situated on trade routes leading from the French possessions into China. Goods imported into China by way of these towns (which practically means French goods only) will pay 30 per cent. less duty than merchandise imported into China by the seaports through which the bulk of her foreign commerce is transacted. Chinese exports shipped by the new Franco-Chinese trade routes will be allowed 40 per cent. reduction of export duty. Opium may not be imported through the French possessions into China, but it may be exported from the latter country to Tonquin on payment of 20 taels (about 5*l.* 15*s.* nominally) per picul (133½ lbs.) export duty.

If bankruptcy statistics may be regarded as affording *prima facie* evidence of the commercial condition of a country, things are not looking very bright in Germany just at present. The commercial failures in that country during the first ten months of the present year have been larger than at any corresponding period since 1882, and the total during October last exceeds that of any corresponding month since 1880. During the first ten months of this year 4,039 bankruptcies have been declared, against 3,939, 3,872, 3,627, 3,831, 4,079, 4,143, and 4,345 respectively in the corresponding periods of previous years back to 1880.

ACID (CITRIC), without much demand and offering lower; 1*s.* 7*d.* would now buy. In Sicily the stock of concentrated juice is small and holders are firm. Business for forward delivery is pretty brisk at steady rates.

ACID (OXALIC) unchanged at 4*d.*; *Sal acetos* still nominally held at 6*d.* per lb.

ACID (TARTARIC) remains depressed at 1*s.* 6½*d.* per lb. for *Foreign*, while *English* might probably be bought for 1*s.* 6½*d.*

ALOE.—The quantity offered for sale included 105 cases *Cape*, 483 packages *Curaçao*, and 57 packages *East Indian*. The demand was rather slack, and only the smaller proportion was sold, fine hard to good *Cape* at 25*s.* 6*d.* to 22*s.*; ordinary drossy at 15*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.; dark capey to good *Curaçao*, 20*s.* to 43*s.*; soft red *East Indian* (Socotrine), 90*s.* to 97*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. The arrivals from Bombay have lately been considerable.

ALUM in somewhat better demand, although still far from lively; 6*l.* for ground and 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for loose lump are the prices.

ANISE.—New *Russian* seed is offering in a rather restricted way, at from 21*s.* to 24*s.*, according to quality. For *Spanish* seed, from 50*s.* to 53*s.* is asked.

ARSENIC.—A steady business is reported at 11*s.* 3*d.* per cwt. for white powder.

BLEACHING-POWDER steady, 8*l.* 15*s.* here, 7*l.* 15*s.* the Tyne.

BORAX.—A fair business is doing at 27*l.* to 30*l.* •

CALUMBA.—Our market remains hurdened with a heavy stock of wormy and dark root, and prices for such parcels show no improvement, although fine bright root is not at all plentiful. Of 532 bags, 258 were disposed of at 14*s.* to 15*s.* for dark and dusty, mixed with yellow; 7*s.* to 12*s.* for common dark to medium, slightly damaged.

CAMPHOR.—Further business has been done in *crude* Japan at 75*s.* per cwt. reweight, and holders now require 77*s.* 6*d.* *Refined* very firm, but makers still hold at 1*s.* ½*d.* per lb. for hells, though they do not seem eager for orders.

CANARY SEED.—Owing to the absence of further shipments from Turkey, the demand had to be covered out of our stock, for which holders obtained an advance of fully 2*s.* 6*d.* Some forward business has also been done to London, at 2*s.* per qr. above last quotations. Stocks in Liverpool were recently estimated at about 7,000 bales—a very small figure compared with previous seasons. On the other hand there is now an influx of Dutch seed into our markets, which may tend to fill up the demand for some time, as the Dutch crop has been a very fair one with regard to quantity, and very little has been sold of it so far. *Spanish* sells at 52*s.* to 54*s.* per 464 lbs. *Morocco* is held at 49*s.* to 52*s.* *Dutch* slightly lower, at 46*s.* to 48*s.*; hold, 50*s.* Good *Turkish* dearer, 45*s.* to 47*s.* per 464 lbs. ex warehouse.

CANELLA ALBA.—Of 22 hales catalogued, 9 were disposed of, dark broken and sea-damaged quill, at 20*s.* per cwt.

CARAWAY SEED.—A very good trade has been done at the low prices prevailing, and the market closes without alteration at 27*s.* 6*d.* to 28*s.* 6*d.* for *Dutch*, and 22*s.* to 23*s.* for *Russian* seed.

CARDAMOMS.—Of 128 cases, the bulk sold at an advance of about 2*d.* per lb. *Mangalore*, of which a good selection was offered, realised 2*s.* 3*d.* to 3*s.* for fair, rather brown mixed to fine smooth pale pods; *Ceylon Malabar*, fair palish medium to hold, 1*s.* 9*d.* to 2*s.*; small palish to common brown, 1*s.* 4*d.* to 8*d.* per lb. *Seeds* fetched 1*s.* 4*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.* per lb.

CASTORUM.—The Hudson's Bay Company's annual auction will take place on December 14, at 11 A.M.

CHAMOMILES quiet but steady at last week's quotations.

CINCHONA.—A moderate quantity of bark was brought forward at Tuesday's auctions, importers preferring to hold back the bulk of the supply rather than throw it upon the market at the rates now prevailing. Altogether 1,655 packages were offered for sale, including 1,023 from Ceylon and India, 191 from Java, and 441 from South America. The bulk, except of the latter variety, was sold at an advance of 10 to 15 per cent. on an average. The unit ranged from 1½*d.* to 2*d.*, but the bulk was sold at the higher figure. The following prices were paid:—CEYLON BARK.—*Succirubra*: dust, 1½*d.* to 2½*d.*; branch, ¾*d.* to 1½*d.*; chips, ordinary to fine, 1½*d.* to 4½*d.*; spoke shavings, 3*d.* to 5*d.*; root, 2*d.* to 5*d.*; renewed, ordinary to fine, 2½*d.* to 8½*d.* *Officinalis*: chips, 3*d.* to 5½*d.*; spoke shavings, 3½*d.* to 7*d.*; root, 7*d.*; renewed, common to fine rich shavings, 4*d.* to 11½*d.* *Hybrid*: chips, 2*d.*; spoke shavings, 6½*d.*; renewed, fine, 10*d.* to 10½*d.* INDIAN BARK.—*Succirubra*: branch, 3½*d.*; chips, 4½*d.* to 7*d.*; spoke shavings, 3*d.*; druggists' quill, small but very mossy 1*s.* 2*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*; renewed, 6*d.*; bright silvery quill, 1*s.*; mossed quill, 9*d.* to 10*d.* *Officinalis*: branch, 8*d.*; chips, 1*s.* 3*d.*; spoke shavings, 3½*d.*; quill, small mossy, 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.*; renewed, 5½*d.* to 10½*d.* The prices paid for druggists' quill are the same as those realised at Friday's drug auctions, when 173 packages, partly fine mossy druggists' quill, *succirubra*, from the Neilgherry hills, sold with good competition at 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. for the best, and from 1*s.* 2*d.* down to 5½*d.* per lb. for more or less broken quill and shavings. Of JAVA BARK, 191 packages were offered. *Ledgeriana* sold, fair to good quilly stem chips at 5*d.* to 8*d.*, root at 6*d.* to 9*d.*; *Succirubra* root 4*d.*; *Officinalis* root 6½*d.*, quilly chips 6*d.* per lb. OF SOUTH AMERICAN BARK 150 hales were sold, fresh *Cuprea* at the low price of 3*d.* to 3½*d.*, good to fine stout cultivated Bolivian *Calisaya* quill at 7*d.* to 10*d.* per lb.



**COPPER (SULPHATE)** again dearer, and held at 15*l.* 10*s.* for ordinary firsts. The metal closes at higher rates after an excited but irregular market.

**CORIANDE** is in very small supply, and the position appears to favour higher prices, although as yet from 11*s.* to 16*s.* per cwt. is still the ruling rate.

**CREAM OF TARTAR.**—In Sicily holders of tartaric materials ask very high prices. The vintage in the island is only about two-thirds of that of last year. The scarcity of firsts is not quite so pressing now, and prices have slightly declined, 123*l.* to 128*l.* 10*s.* being the spot quotation.

**CUBEBS.**—At the recent auctions 23 packages were offered, but only 5 bags bold grey and brown mixed berries, free from stalk, sold, at 20*l.* per cwt. Good quality was bought in at 25*l.* to 26*l.* A consignment of 26 bags has just come to hand per "Orestes."

**CUMIN SEED,** unchanged and steady at 48*s.* to 49*s.* for *Malta*, and from 30*s.* to 35*s.* for *East Indian*.

**ERGOT OF RYE.**—At the drug sales a not inconsiderable supply was offered, totalling 63 packages. No demand whatever was manifested, and the whole was bought rather above the value. Privately the market is quiet. *Russian* is quoted at 1*s.* 8*d.* per lb.; *Spanish* at 2*s.* per lb.

**FENUGREEK SEED.**—There is not much alteration in the market, which remains steady at 8*s.* to 8*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for *Morocco*, and 6*s.* to 6*s.* 6*d.* for new *Egyptian*.

**GALANGAL.**—Forty mats good bright root sold at 10*s.*

**GALLS.**—*China* do not seem quite so firm. Privately there is no business doing, and at the auctions 112 cases of good colour, and not particularly dusty, were bought in at 70*s.* per cwt., the broker declaring that less would be accepted.

**GAMBIER.**—Last week's decline has been recovered, and on the spot free cubes have sold at 35*s.* 6*d.* per cwt., while for block 23*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. has been paid. Forward delivery dearer, for arrival November-December steamer has sold at 22*s.* 6*d.* and October steamer at 23*s.* per cwt.

**GAMBOGE.**—Of 18 cases offered at auction, only one case good bright free pipe sold, at 12*l.* per cwt. Dull rather dark-coloured blocky pipe is held at 9*l.* 15*s.* per cwt.

**GUINEA GRAINS.**—A parcel of 29 bags rather stony seed sold somewhat cheaply, at 16*s.* to 17*s.* per cwt.

**GUM ANIMI.**—The quantity offered for sale to-day was not a large one, and while the demand for *Madagascar* was good, and prices fairly well maintained the recent advance, *Zanzibar* animi was very quiet. The following prices were paid:—*Madagascar*: small to good pale sorts, mixed with amber, 7*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 9*l.*; good pea and bean, 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; good pickings, 76*s.* per cwt. *Zanzibar*: good to fine pale and amber sorts, 11*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*; very good palish pea and bean, 7*l.* 15*s.*; siftings, 29*s.* per cwt.

**GUM ARABIC.**—About 2,600 packages, nearly all *East Indian* gums, were catalogued for to-day's sales, but the bulk is held at such rates as to prevent the trade from operating. At the auctions the following rates were paid:—*East Indian Amrad*, fine bold pale amber, 125*s.* to 135*s.*; red and dark mixed, 56*s.* 6*d.* to 66*s.*; dark red, 44*s.* 6*d.* to 45*s.*; fair siftings, 56*s.* 6*d.*; very common, down to 6*s.*; pickings, good, 46*s.*; low, down to 14*s.* per cwt. *Ghatti*, exceptionally fine to good, 107*s.* 6*d.* to 78*s.*; very fair yellow, 71*s.*; small siftings, 56*s.* 6*d.*; pickings, from 30*s.* down to 10*s.* *Cape* in good demand. Some excellent white gum sold as high as 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; fine yellow, 8*l.* 10*s.*; dark, 54*s.* to 64*s.*; and very fine dust, at 105*s.* per cwt. *Senegal* firm and advancing at Bordeaux. As regards *Egyptian* gums, the Trieste market is almost bare, and at Cairo there is little stock.

**GUM BENJAMIN.**—The 71 cases offered met with a very good demand for all varieties except *Siam*, which was bought in at 30*l.* for fine loose partly blocky almonds, and 12*l.* for woody blocky siftings. *Sumatra* gum sold as follows:—Fine white almondy of excellent flavour, 12*l.* to 12*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; good grey seconds, 9*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 10*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*; dark drossy, very false packed, to fair almondy, 5*l.* 10*s.* to

8*l.* 15*s.* Good orange second *Palembang*, 5*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 6*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

**GUM COPAL.**—A large supply of *Manila*, numbering nearly 1,300 packages, awoke but a languid interest, and a small proportion sold at 38*s.* to 45*s.* for dark to fair pale yellow and red. Soft yellow *Singapore* sold at 30*s.* 6*d.* to 32*s.* per cwt.

**GUM DAMAR** remains neglected. Of 440 packages offered only a few lots dust were sold at 12*s.* to 14*s.* per cwt.

**GUM ELEMI.**—Of 102 boxes offered, only twenty, fine pale gum, sold, at 33*s.* the remainder was bought in at 35*s.* to 40*s.*

**GUM KINO** continues in very fair request, 13 cases good bright small broken gum selling at 45*s.* 6*d.* to 46*s.* per cwt.

**GUM KOWRIE.**—A rather small supply of 472 cases passed off quietly. The sales were mostly of medium and inferior qualities, at slightly lower rates. Fair to good selected amber realised from 78*s.* to 90*s.*; dark hard-scraped, 58*s.* to 66*s.*; dark to good chips, 47*s.* to 60*s.* per cwt.

**GUM MYRRH** sells fairly steady at unchanged rates. Of 38 packages, about half were disposed of, at 5*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* for native-picked Aden, and 5*l.* for good pale sorts, and 50*s.* to 95*s.* for good but small to fine pale siftings.

**GUM OLIBANUM** quiet, and without demand at the present rates. A small lot of siftings sold at 12*s.* per cwt.

**HONEY.**—The demand was rather slack at the auctions; *Jamaica*, good pale to dark brown liquid, from 32*s.* to 22*s.* For a parcel of good solid white *Chilian* 23*s.* was refused.

**INSECT FLOWERS.**—There is no alteration in the price of *Dalmatian* flowers quoted last week.

**IODINE.**—The price still remains at 9*d.* per oz.; *Resublimed* at 14*s.* 6*d.*, and *Potassium iodide* at 11*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

**IPECACUANHA.**—Altogether 39 packages were offered, of which 22 sold without much competition at a decline, in most instances, of 2*d.* per lb.; 5*s.* 6*d.* per lb. was paid for fine bold selected root; 4*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.* for good annulated, more or less damaged to rather thin root; 4*s.* 1*d.* for badly damaged and mouldy. The "Merlin" brought us another shipment of 71 packages *via* Antwerp this week.

**JALAP.**—Of 56 packages mixed Vera Cruz tubers, fairly heavy, 25 sold at 6*d.* per lb.; the remainder was bought in at 7*d.* per lb.

**LINSEED** remains firm, and several varieties show a tendency to advance. *English* seed is worth 48*s.* to 49*s.*; *Italian*, 46*s.*; *Dutch*, 43*s.* to 45*s.*; *Hungarian*, 40*s.*; *South American*, 37*s.* to 39*s.* *East Indian*: Bombay, 39*s.*; Calcutta, 37*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

**MORPHIA.**—The feeling in the market is decidedly weaker, and although the makers still quote 7*s.* 6*d.* per oz. officially, less would no doubt be accepted, as second-hand parcels are offering as low as 6*s.* per oz., and even, it is said, below that price. At the last auctions 300 oz. of T. and H. Smith & Co.'s brand were bought in at 6*s.* 6*d.* per oz., no bid being forthcoming, and 2,112 oz. *Indian morphia* withdrawn.

**MUSK.**—The selection was very small, and some *Tonquin* sold at an advance of fully 10*d.* per oz. This consisted of medium to bold, fairly dry, well-trimmed, old-fashioned pods; three similar caddies, but not so dry and rather broken pods, were bought in at 125*s.* per oz.; one tin small to medium skinny pod fetched 104*s.* per oz.; genuine but skinny second pile was bought in at 100*s.*; good shaped but false packed third pile at 70*s.* per oz. *Grain* sold from 27*s.* to 42*s.* Two caddies Chinese *cabardine*, good quality, sold at 19*s.* 6*d.* per oz.; four remained unsold.

**MUSTARD SEED.**—*White* in good supply, and without demand. *English*, 3*s.* to 11*s.*; foreign, 7*s.* 6*d.* to 9*s.* *Brown East Indian* firm.

**OIL (CASTOR)** remains steady, but without much business: *Italian* is held at 4*d.*; first water white *Calcutta* at 4*d.*; good second *Calcutta* sells at 2*d.* 3*d.* per lb. ex quay.

**OIL (COD-LIVER).**—The aspect of the market is much stronger, and we hear that orders are coming in fairly briskly. The prices are still unchanged, say from 3*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 3*d.* per gallon for finest non-congealable, and 3*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 8*d.* for summer oil. *Hamburg* and *Bergen* are firm.



**OILS (ESSENTIAL).**—*Star anise* continues to improve slowly. On the spot 7s. 3d. per lb. is now the lowest price. *Bergamot* is rather steadier, but yet there do not seem to be very many buyers; from 7s. up to 9s. per lb. is quoted, according to quality. Sales of *Camphor* oil were made last week at 2½d. per lb. *Cissia* oil unchanged but weak; 2s. 7d. to 2s. 7½d. per lb. *Cinnamon* oil without much demand; fair to good strong bright 1s. 6d. to 2s. per oz. For *Cinnamon leaf* oil 1½d. per oz. was refused at the recent auctions. *Citronella* very dull, at ¾d. to 1½d. per oz. for native brands. At the auctions last Friday 16 cases were bought in at 1d. per oz., and 8 cases "Winter's" brand (for which 1d. per oz. was refused) at 2½d. per oz., 2d. being suggested as the price. English oil of *Cloves* is still quoted at 6s. 6d. per lb. *Lemon* steady, with a good demand for ordinary to fair qualities, and sales at 4s. 6d. to 5s. per lb. *Lemongrass* oil quiet but steady at 2d. per oz. At auction 3 cases of "Winter's" brand were bought in at 5d. per oz. In *Otto of Rose* a good many arrivals have taken place lately, and certain holders would be willing to accept somewhat lower prices. The ruling brands, however, are unchanged, *Thmsen* at 20s. 6d. f.o.b. Constantinople. Oil of *Peppermint*: Mitcham is steady, with a fair business up to 28s. per lb. for fine oil. American (H G H) steady, at 12s. 6d. to 12s. 7½d. per lb. on the spot. Japanese oil quiet, say 4s. to 4s. 6d. per lb. At last Friday's auctions 9 cases old L B H American oil sold "without reserve" at 9s. per lb.

**OILS (FIXED).**—Ceylon *Cocunut* oil is a shade easier, and closes at 23d. 15s. *Cochin* quiet, at 30l. to 32l. for good to fine. Mauritius nominal, at 25l. 10s. New crude *Cottonseed* oil again dearer, 18l. 10s. being spot price, 17l. 5s. January-April. Refined steady, at 20l. Hull advancing; spot 19l. 10s., December-April 18l., crude 17l. 7s. 6d. The rise in *Linseed* oil has made no further progress, but at the close the article is firm at 19l. 5s. to 19l. 10s. spot, December 19l. 10s., January-April 19l. 12s. 6d. to 19l. 15s., May-August 20l. Hull, spot 19l. 2s. 6d. to 19l. 7s. 6d. *Palm* oil quiet, at 22l. for fine Lagos. *Petroleum* unaltered, but momentarily quiet. American, 5½d. to 6d. spot and December. Russian, 5½d. to 6d. spot. *Rape* oil has risen still further; brown spot 25l. 15s., refined 26l. 15s. to 27l. *Turpentine* slightly dearer since our last. American spirit on the spot 27s. 3d. to 27s. 6d., December 27s. 6d., January-April 28s. per cwt.

**OIL (OLIVE).**—The London market remains firm, and some speculative transactions are reported. *Mogadore* is now quoted at 34l.; *Messina* and *Spanish* nominally at 35l. to 36l., and 37l. to 38l. respectively. In Liverpool the market is quiet, and holders offer freely at current rates. The latest reports from the producing districts are as follows:—At Naples the market remains firm, at unchanged rates, owing to the reports which arrive from the provinces of premature falling of the olives and poor results in the crushing. There is still great competition in the provinces for the olives on the trees, as also for the new oil suitable for home requirements, so that the entries of common oil at the shipping ports are very insignificant. In Sicily the crop now promises well, and prices are lower, but there is an absence of any important demand for export. As regards the Ionian Islands and Greece, in Corfu and Zante the weather has been favourable, and the prospects for business have improved. The quality of new arrivals promises well, and the Corfu crop is estimated at 5,000 tons. In Asia Minor prices have advanced, and sellers for export appear to have withdrawn from the market for the present. Very little if any oil is likely to come to Northern markets from Candia next season, as the total yield of the island is now estimated at barely 2,000 tons. In Tunis the market is firm, and business is impracticable under 31l. c.i.f.: even at this there is nothing offering, though buyers' ideas are about 20s. lower. From Morocco there is no fresh news. Prices in Spain remain firm, and business with England is altogether impracticable. Crop advices vary from the different districts, but on the whole it is not expected that an average yield will be realised.

**OPIUM.**—Our market is very quiet, and prices are barely maintained. *Persian* is quoted at 14s. 6d. to 15s.; good *Druggists'* from 14s. 6d. to 15s. per lb. Eighteen cases sea-damaged *Persian* are advertised for sale without reserve next Thursday. New opium in Smyrna is held at very firm prices, but lower rates have been accepted for old parcels. It

appears that a considerable quantity of the latter variety is held by very weak owners who cannot afford to hold on any longer, and have accepted from 11s. 3d. to 11s. per lb. for old "tale quale." Writing on November 12, a Smyrna opium-dealer says:—"The future course of our market does not depend merely upon the supply and demand, but also to a great extent upon speculation. Amongst speculators there are still holders of opium which, even at the present prices, would leave them a profit; and, besides this, old opium in the hands of our regular dealers does not cost over 8s. 6d. per lb. As the winter sowings have taken place under most favourable circumstances, it is possible that a decline of 6d. to 1s. might take place quite unexpectedly, and that we may again witness what has taken place this week, at the beginning of which nobody could have foreseen the prices that have since been accepted. Such sudden fluctuations would never have occurred if opium were held only by regular dealers. Another cause for weakness on our market is that amongst the different lots of old 'tale quale' opium held by speculators there are many of very medium quality, which have been several times refused by competent buyers, and it is possible that holders of such quality may decide to realise at any price." In the Dutch-Indian estimates for 1888 the item for the purchase of Turkish opium has been increased by 205,000f. (17,000l.) as compared with the previous estimate, it having been found impossible to purchase the usual quantity this season.

**ORRIS ROOT.**—Two bales good bold pale *Florence* root, just imported, sold at 32s. per cwt, while two serons of the darker and more shrivelled *Mogadore* root were said to have been disposed of by private treaty.

**QUICKSILVER** unchanged, at 7l. 15s. from the importers, 7l. 14s. second hand; but business does not seem brisk.

**QUININE.**—The better feeling noticeable last week has received an impetus from the higher rates paid for cinchona bark, and prices for *German* brands have advanced, as much as 1s. 6d. per oz. having been paid for bulk ex second hand. Manufacturers' quotations nominally unaltered: *Howard's* bottles, 2s. 3d.; bulk, 2s. 1d. *Pelletier's* bottles, 2s. 2d.; bulk, 2s. per oz. The market closes firmly; it is stated that business in *German* bulk was done at 1s. 7d. per oz. on 'Change to-day. B. & S. is quoted by the makers at 1s. 7d.

**RHUBARB.**—The quantity catalogued comprised 165 cases, 58 of which were sold at steady prices, the competition being slightly better than at previous sales. *Shensi* good round, good fair pink fracture, sold at 2s. 8d.; medium to bold, pale pink fracture with dark centre, 2s.; bold grey and dark, rather wormy, 1s.; flat, small and medium, grey fracture, spongy and rough to fair, 11d. to 1s. 5d. *Canton* good bright bold flat, 1s. 8d.; medium and bold round, 1s. 8d. *High dried*, flat, small dull fracture, very wormy to good, mixed sizes, 6d. to 10½d.; pickings 6d.

**SAFFRON** is reported firm; fine to extra fine *Valencia* 47s. 6d. to 51s. per lb.

**SARSAPARILLA.**—Of 54 bales, about one half was sold at unaltered prices. Grey *Jamaica* root was not shown. Fair red was bought in at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d.; 28 bales *Lima Jamaica* realised 1s. 5½d. for slightly, and 1s. 4d. for badly damaged. *Honduras* quite neglected.

**SENNA.**—About 320 bales *Tinnevely* leaf came up for sale, but the demand appeared to have been satisfied, and very little competition existed. Altogether 71 bales found buyers at a slight decline; small yellowish part-dark leaf, 2½d. to 2¾d.; fair to good medium greenish, 3¼d. to 5d.; good to fine bold green, 7½d. to 9½d. per lb. At the end of last week 311 packages *Tinnevely* were imported here per *Kerbela*.

**SHELLAC.**—At the public sales this week 872 chests were offered, nearly one-half of which sold without much competition at fairly steady rates, second orange occasionally a fraction lower. The following prices were paid:—*First orange*, fair ASSL, 62s. to 63s. *Second orange*, good bright MM in double triangle, 48s. to 48s. 6d.; JB in diamond, and SK in double triangle, 47s. 6d.; fair MF in diamond, 47s.; unworked livery DAC in triangle, and TN, 45s. to 46s.; ditto cakey JF in diamond (without reserve) 44s. 6d. to 45s. per cwt. 76 cases AC *Garnet lac* in block sold at 38s. to 38s. 6d., while an offer of 48s. was refused for 37 cases *Second button*.



For arrival, sales have been made at lower prices, TN *second orange*, November-January and December-February shipment, at 47s. c.i.f.; February delivery at 49s.; January delivery, 48s.

**SODA COMPOUNDS.**—*Ash* quiet at 11*d.* to 1*3*/*8**d.*, Tyne to 1*d.*, less a discount. *Bicarbonate* very firm at 6*l.* 5*s.* per ton. In *Caustic* soda a good many offers are being made by middlemen at comparatively low prices, to provide for the requirements of the paper manufacturers in the coming year. The price ranges from 7*l.* for cream to 7*l.* 10*s.* for 60 per cent. white on the spot. *Crystals* tending easier in London, where 50*s.* is the quotation, and lower on the Tyne at 43*s.* 9*d.* *Nitrate* 8*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* to 8*l.* 15*s.* landed. The consumption of this article for 1887 up to the present date shows a large increase over that of the previous year, and the stocks in Europe are barely sufficient to supply the requirements to the end of this year. There are so many elements of uncertainty in relation to this visible supply that the position of the article during the first three months of the year must of necessity remain for the present obscure. The winds affecting the passage from the West Coast to the port of destination, the earliness or lateness of the spring season, and the influence of prevailing low prices on the consumption are unknown quantities, and baffle all attempts at calculation; but it is to be noted that the visible supply is about equal to the quantity consumed in Europe during the first six months of this year, and that in a favourable season not less than three-fourths of the deliveries for consumption in Europe would take place during the first three months of that period.

**SPICES.**—*Arrowroot* remains quiet. At auction only one lot was sold, fine St. Vincent, at 5*1*/*2**d.*; afterwards ordinary to fair ditto sold at 1*3*/*8**d.* to 2*3*/*8**d.*; middling to good Natal, 2*1*/*2**d.* to 2*3*/*8**d.* *Chillies* about 6*d.* lower. New Zanzibar, fairly bright, 25*s.* 6*d.* to 26*s.* per cwt. *Cassia lignea* firm at 23*s.*; sales of broken at 16*s.* A small lot old Padang *Cassia vera* sold at 20*s.* 6*d.* to 21*s.* in auction. *Cloves* without material alteration. The demand is slack; 10*3*/*4**d.* is the price for fair Zanzibar, and 11*3*/*4**d.* to 1*s.* for fair stalky to bright Penang. *Clove stems* lower, at 2*3*/*8**d.* per lb. for Zanzibar (one lot 2*1*/*2**d.*). *Cochin Ginger* neglected; pale, small to bold, partly cut, at 35*s.* *Mace* easy; bright to fine pale Penang, 2*s.* 7*d.* to 2*s.* 9*d.* *Nutmegs* neglected; the sales include Penang (86) at 2*s.* 8*d.*, Singapore (103) at 2*s.* 4*d.*, West India (81 to 108) at 2*s.* 9*d.* to 2*s.* 2*d.* per lb. *Pepper* quiet. At auction no black pepper was sold, but to-day Singapore sold on the spot at 7*1*/*2**d.* to 8*d.*, and for December-January at 7*3*/*8**d.* per lb. Good white Singapore pepper sold at auction at 12*3*/*8**d.*; fair to good ditto Penang at 10*d.* to 10*3*/*8**d.* per lb. *Pimento* steady; ordinary to fair, 2*1*/*2**d.* to 2*3*/*8**d.* per lb.

**SULPHUR.**—No material change can be reported. English *flowers* are held at 9*s.* 6*d.*, foreign at 8*s.* 6*d.*; *roll*, at 6*s.* 9*d.* to 7*s.* per cwt.

**TONQUIN BEANS.**—Seven cases were offered, and all bought in at 1*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* per lb., nominally, for good frosted beans. Two cases very common foxy *Pará* sold at 4*d.*

**TURMERIC.**—700 bags offered at auction were all bought in, common *Bengal* bulbs at 11*s.*, *Madras* bulbs at 8*s.*, finger at 9*s.* per cwt. Privately we hear that 2,000 bags *Bengal*, December-January sailer shipment, have changed hands at 9*s.* 3*d.* c.i.f.

**VANILLA.**—83 tins of the 163 offered sold at irregular prices, good mostly dearer; 7*1*/*2* to 8*1*/*2* inch, at 22*s.* 6*d.* to 27*s.* 6*d.*; 7 to 7*1*/*2* inch, at 16*s.* 6*d.* to 18*s.* 6*d.*; 6*1*/*2* to 7 inch, at 14*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.* 6*d.*; 6*1*/*2* inch, at 14*s.* to 15*s.*; 6 to 6*1*/*2* inch, at 13*s.* 6*d.* to 16*s.*; 6 inch, at 13*s.* 6*d.* to 14*s.* 6*d.*; 5*1*/*2* to 6 inch, at 12*s.* to 13*s.*; 5*1*/*2* inch, at 13*s.*; 5 inch, at 11*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*; 3 to 4*1*/*2* inch, at 7*s.* 6*d.*

#### AMERICAN CABLEGRAM.

[Received too late for insertion in our last issue.]

NEW YORK, November 17.

**BORAX.**—A considerable business has been done here at rapidly advancing prices.

**ERGOT.**—Our stock, which was already considerable, has been still further increased this week by fresh arrivals, and it

seems not unlikely that ere long prices will give way under the competition of sellers.

**OPIUM.**—For the last few days prices have been wavering and now they have taken a decided turn towards a decline.

**QUININE.**—Buyers are endeavouring to "bull" the market.

**SENEGA.**—Good bright Western root has again advanced, and sales have been made at the price of 45c. per lb., equal to 2*s.* 1*1*/*2**d.* per lb. London terms.

#### THE DUTCH MARKET.

AMSTERDAM, November 23.

**CINCHONA.**—On December 8 an auction will take place here, at which 589 cases and 2,304 bales Java cinchona will be offered. This quantity includes 105 cases and 375 bales produced on the Government plantations.

**COCOA ADULTERATION.**—Our leading cocoa manufacturers have lately been pestered by invitations from a London firm of dealers in colours and chemicals to try a new cocoa adulterant. In their letter the firm in question say, "We hand you herewith sample of a finely levigated brown which we are supplying for the purpose of bringing up the colour of cocoa; it is perfectly harmless, and being of light gravity and rich colour is particularly well adapted for the purpose." The sample is a mineral brown, and upon analysis was found to consist simply of oxide of iron and a little alumina—certainly not very desirable ingredients in cocoa or chocolate.

**CUBEBS.**—A few small parcels (respectively 17, 14, and 5 bags) of spurious berries arrived here a few days ago. Of these shipments 10 bags were sold at 2.80c. per  $\frac{1}{2}$  kilo. = 23*l.* 7*s.* per cwt. These are the large grey berries, produced in the eastern part of Java. They differ from the genuine cubebs in size, colour, smell, and taste, and America, England, and France declined to buy them. It seems that Germany is the only country where our importers can get rid of their spurious cubebs. The annual production in Java may be estimated at about 100 bags of the spurious kind, which usually are not shipped before September, whilst the crop of the genuine berries begins to be shipped as early as in April.

**DUTCH SPECIALITIES.**—At one time a very large number of proprietary medicines of Dutch manufacture were held in some repute in foreign countries, but the export trade in these nostrums has now dwindled down to a few old-fashioned remedies, of which, at the present time, the United States is the principal foreign customer. Chief among these articles is the so-called *Haarlem oil*, a brown liquid, principally consisting of sulphuretted turpentine (oleum terebinthinae sulphuratum). The genuine oil is made in the city of Haarlem, and costs about six times the price of the imitation, which latter, however, is the oil most generally exported. The colour of the former is lighter and the liquid more transparent, but their virtues are said to be on the same level. Haarlem oil is a panacea for the majority of diseases—as the proprietor puts it in his circular, "*Medicamentum gratiū probatum.*" The advertisement, got up in a mock-antique style and commencing with a pious exhortation, chiefly sets forth its alleged virtue as a cure for disorders of the urinary organs. In the Far West of America the remedy is much esteemed a dozen bottles of this oil and a revolver being, it is said, the only absolute necessities for a settler in those parts. *Spyker balsam*, an ointment the base of which consists of Peruvian balsam, was also much exported in former years, but has now more or less fallen into desuetude.

MR. THOMAS BURN, chemist and druggist, has removed from 512 Rochdale Road to larger premises at 446 and 448 Rochdale Road, Manchester.

MR. HENRY PRYER, of Teignmouth, has purchased the business of Mr. Price, Abergavenny, and has sold his business at Teignmouth to Mr. Edward Silk, late senior assistant with Mr. E. Worth, Bournemouth.

THE partnership between Messrs. Sutcliffe & Gosden, drug merchants, of Dunster House, Mincing Lane, E.C., has expired by effluxion of time. Mr. James Gosden retires from the firm, and the business will be carried on under the same style as heretofore by Mr. James Sutcliffe for his sole account. Mr. C. Freudenthal has the procurator.





### Memoranda for Correspondents.

*Always send your proper name and address: we do not publish them unless you wish.*

*Write on one side of the paper only; write early; and devote a separate sheet of paper to each query if you ask more than one, or if you are writing about other matters at the same time.*

*If you send us newspapers, please mark what you wish us to read.*

*Ask us anything of pharmaceutical interest: we shall do our best to reply.*

*Before writing for formulæ consult the last volume, if you have it.*

*Letters, queries, &c., not noticed in this issue will, if possible, be attended to next week.*

### Solubility of Saccharin.

SIR,—On making up an 8-oz. bottle of cod-liver oil emulsion as recommended by Mr. A. W. Gerrard in your last, I was disappointed in the sweetening power of the saccharin. On preparing another quantity, I used Martindale's elixir of saccharin, with a very good result. It appears to be an advantage to add the saccharin in solution, although the 2 grains will, perhaps, gradually dissolve in the emulsion.

Yours truly,  
HEDER.

### The Board of Health Mixture.

SIR,—I am glad to find "P. P. P." confirms my objections to the use of pulv. conf. aromat. as "aromatic powder," as ordered in the Board of Health cholera mixture. I have also heard from an eminent London firm respecting it, and they say, "We ourselves have for some years used the pulv. aromat., B.P. 1864, which is the modern representative of conf. aromat. minus the chalk. This latter is supplied in the formula by the mist. cretæ."

Not having the B.P. 1864 by me, I cannot tell whether the formula for pulv. cinnamomi co. 1864 is exactly the same as that in B.P. 1867 and 1885.

I should like an expression of opinion from other correspondents as to the usual interpretation of "aromatic powder," as it seems to me so plainly laid down in the two last B.P.'s, and also in Squire's "Companion." The same difficulty presented itself with regard to pil. colocynth co. when I was dispenser some years ago in a West-end establishment doing fifty prescriptions daily. I was expected to use ext. coloc. co. invariably when pil. coloc. co. was ordered, no matter the date of the prescription. It seems to me some houses have fads about the things, but the B.P. ought to be our guide.

Yours truly,

ATTRACTION. (197/66.)

[Pulvis aromaticus, B.P. 1864, contained all the ingredients of the present pulvis cretæ aromaticus except the chalk. The Board of Health published the formula for cholera mixture before pulvis cinnamomi compositus existed, so that that powder cannot be meant. There is no question, however, about what "aromatic powder" now is, and "Attraction" is quite correct on that point.]

### Mystical Letters.

SIR,—As your correspondent "A. T. A." wishes to add to the already long list of mystical letters which is now so generally adopted by all trades and professions, learned or otherwise, I should be glad to know the business use of them, and if the public understand what they are intended to imply, as many have a doubtful double meaning, thus:—

M.B.—Bachelor Medicine; Medical Botanist. M.P.S.—Member Pharmaceutical Society; Member Phonetic Society. M.E.—Mining Engineer; Medical Electrician. C.M.—Master of Surgery; Certificated Master; &c.

Then, in some benefit societies a member is a lower grade than an associate, and *vice versa*.

Certificated Dispenser, Apothecaries' Hall, is certainly more reasonable and can be understood by the public better than Associate of the Pharmaceutical Society, although, of course, the latter is of much more value. Armorial bearings (except as trade-marks) have to pay a licence; why not the users of mystical letters?

Yours truly,

November 15. DEVONIENSIS. (197/50)

### The Irish Pharmacy Act.

SIR,—I was glad to observe a communication from "Belladonna" in the last copy of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST *à propos* of "The Irish Pharmacy Act," and agree with the views put forward by him. The question at issue is, Ought there to be a "second grade" in Ireland, and would its establishment be beneficial to the public or to pharmacists? It is well known, as stated by "A Subscriber" in your issue of November 12, that "the second grade actually exists at present;" he might, however, have added that said existence is illegal. In almost every Irish town, in addition to the properly qualified chemist or apothecary, the class referred to as "actually existing at present" is represented by a nondescript individual who, in addition to pursuing his vocation of grocer, oil or hardware merchant, styles himself a "Druggist," and retails poisons indiscriminately, contrary to the provisions of the Poisons Act, which must be, and is, detrimental to the public; and such persons are only waiting and working for the time when they will be able to register as "chemists and druggists," and do legally what is now done by them "under the rose." Of course the result would depend on the extent of qualification which the proposed "second grade" would confer. It is to be presumed that the most sanguine of those who desire its formation do not aspire to the compounding of prescriptions; if they do, the common-sense of mankind must have suffered great depreciation of late. What they really want is to retail poisons, and that claim is apparently based on the supposition that there is not a sufficient number of qualified men to supply the wants of the public at present.

As a matter of fact, in the small towns where the sale of poisons constitutes the principal part of the chemist's business, if the "second grade" were established its effect would be to drive the trained and qualified men out of such places and deprive the public of their services. "Belladonna" argues that a chemist can sell and handle poisons as well as a druggist, and this cannot be denied; but has anyone the temerity to assert that a druggist can compound prescriptions as well as a chemist? Would it not be more advantageous for the public to be in a position to have an urgent prescription compounded when required than to enjoy the privilege of being supplied with poisons by a person who could have no knowledge of their composition, dose, or antidote?

It is needless to point out that the duty of the Council is plain; the chemists of the country expect protection, and if they do not get it the fault does not lie with the Council, but with themselves. Let the licentiates who are not members seek election as such at once; they will then be in a position to appoint men who would look after their interests.

I may also remark in conclusion that if *all* licentiates were annual subscribers the protection capable of being afforded them would be much more practical than it is at present.

Kells, co. Meath. Your very truly,

November 21, 1887.

JAS. A. MCKEE, M.P.S.I.

SIR,—Allow me to clear away an error into which you along with others have fallen. In your leader of November 12 you infer that we have only asked for, and would be satisfied with, the registration of those in business at the present. This was not our intention. The question was asked by myself, after the President had very fully replied to us, as to what position we stood in—would the Council legalise those who had gone into trade since 1875? The President said that, supposing legislation were to take place now, entitling those who had come into business since 1875 to registration, would that satisfy our body? I distinctly said "Yes," and so it will on that point. But I did not say we would not ask for any more, nor must I be understood in that light, as our memorial or resolution distinctly pointed out to the



Council that, as well as the grievance of the assistants and apprentices who were in trade at the passing of the Act, there was a general impression that provision should be made by Act of Parliament to establish the second grade contemplated by the Act of 1875, which is, upon the passing of a Minor's examination, dealers in drugs and poisons should be legalised. This would effectively cover the case of all who are in the establishments of chemists and druggists at present, and who are debarred the right of going up for examination by reason of the Council's by-law, making it necessary that they must produce a certificate showing they have completed four years with a pharmacist or apothecary.

Now, sir, how are the assistants, &c., of chemists and druggists to do this? And if no provision is made for them, what is to become of them? Are they to be nothing but assistants all their life?

I am, dear sir, yours truly,  
173 New Lodge Road, Belfast. W. T. RANKIN.

[When the deputation told the Council they would be "satisfied" with such and such legislation, their meaning ought to have been unmistakable.]

#### Rheumatism Cures.

SIR,—In reference to your remarks "Curing a President's Rheumatism," the following may be interesting:—Some years since a man of considerable ability, a most practical, hard-headed man, one whose balanced judgment is sought after in and around London, in fact, just the last man to be open to humbug, purchased of me some mercury in a pill-box. This he had closely sewn up in wash-leather, and then carried it in his pocket. He informed me it had been strongly recommended, so he tried it, although laughing at the idea. I knew him for years after, and he assured me it cured his rheumatism, which was of long standing. He afterwards recommended it to many of his friends, and with the same good effect. I believe, sir, this is an old remedy. Is there more in it than appears on the surface?

Yours truly,

14 South Colonnade, St. Leonards. HENRY J. DEACON.

[There is, perhaps, more in these charm-like remedies than they generally get credit for, although horse-chestnuts carried in the pocket are rather a far-fetched cure. A good old-fashioned cure for rheumatism is sulphur dusted in the stockings or carried about the person. It acts, as mercury probably does, through skin-absorption.]

#### Co-operation.

SIR,—May I be permitted to direct the attention of your readers to the short paragraph in your last week's issue upon "Co-operation among Swiss Pharmacists" (p. 609), and to suggest to them the desirability of adopting this *legitimate* method of protecting themselves against "cutting" tradesmen? For some little time I have privately advocated some such plan, for it seems to me that if druggists will but overcome the mutual jealousy which is supposed *not* to exist, and band together thus, they will accomplish more for themselves than any external influence, Parliamentary or otherwise, can or will accomplish for them. If but a few in any town will associate themselves for this purpose, others will soon find that it is to their best interests to follow suit. Retail profits may then be reduced to a *reasonable* figure, and it will be impossible for outsiders to insert the thin edge of the "cutting" wedge.

JOHN HUMPHREY,

Sheffield.

At some length our correspondent develops his idea. He first assumes that a goodly number of promoters has been found for any locality where the experiment is to be tried. Central premises must be taken, a small staff of workmen hired, and a truly skilful practical pharmacist as manager nominated. The buying and distribution of goods are detailed, but that these would be done in the most economical manner possible is so obvious that we need not occupy space with the particulars. The manager is to test and guarantee everything taken into stock, and this would provide an opportunity for teaching the pupils of associates the technical knowledge of the business. It is assumed that such a course as is suggested would enable chemists to sell at much lower

prices retail, and that they would thus out-flank the cutters; and it is urged besides that kindly feeling and true sympathy between brother-pharmacists would be stimulated and encouraged.

#### More Legal Proceedings Wanted.

SIR,—At the meeting of the Pharmaceutical Council held on August 3 last it was stated by the President that further legal proceedings, consequent on the decision in the Leith Depot case, would form matter for future deliberation on the part of the Council.

Has the deliberation here promised taken place, and, if so, when, and with what result? Much has been heard of new buildings, a new research laboratory, and new legislation about a curriculum; but nothing has been said either about a new Pharmacy Act, which would be of practical value to the trade, or about a further testing of the question whether the present Act is worth anything at all to pharmacists. In the present clogged state of legislation in Parliament, it is hopeless to expect a new Act. Are the Council going to consider the decision given in the Scotch Court as final and conclusive? If so, then let them make this known, and we shall know what to do at next election, when I trust that men will be returned who have the practical wants of the trade more at heart than seems to be the case with the present members. But surely this cannot be. The Council must know that the trade will never be satisfied that everything has been done that might be under the present Act until a case is got up in England, prosecuting separately individuals forming bogus companies for selling poisons when they are not pharmaceutical chemists or chemists and druggists. Should the lower courts be against the Society, the case could be taken to the House of Lords and settled once for all. Why is this not done? The Council seem to be at present up in a balloon with their building, curriculum, and research schemes, far removed above the pressing and practical wants of the trade. Let them take care that they do not come down a financial wreck with all their bubbles burst. If this happens they will find that the trade is not in a condition to lend them another "pile."

That the undermining of our business is still going on, the formation of new companies and the rapid extension of branches of those already existing abundantly testify. In Edinburgh alone two new branches of the two present limited-liability establishments are about to be started, and I doubt not but that the same thing is taking place in all large towns. I do trust that the Council will wake up, even at the eleventh hour, and realise the true position of affairs.

I am, yours very truly,

Edinburgh, November 19.

ECOSSE.

#### DISPENSING NOTES.

[The opinion of practical readers is invited on subjects discussed under this heading.]

#### The Ambiguous Prescription.

SIR,—Considering the dose of ext. opii ranges from  $\frac{1}{2}$  gr. to 2 gr., the pain being severe I should have no hesitation in supplying six pills of 2 grains each, not considering it necessary to consult the doctor, nor, on any account, the patient.

Liverpool.

JAMES PHILLIPS.

#### Recording Dispensing Work.

SIR,—Surely other means might be adopted for recording "repetitions," if necessary, than the very objectionable plan adopted by "Heder," by which at least five-sixths of the prescription-book would be misemployed, the notation inconveniently enlarged, and the facility of reference impeded. A "waste-book" would answer such a purpose. The integrity of the prescription-book is most important, and its character as such should be preserved.

Liverpool.

JAMES PHILLIPS.

A Contributor sends us the following copy of the page ruling of a dispensing register, in which every prescription dispensed, whether for the first time or as a repeat, is entered.



The advantages which he claims for it are: (1) It shows the amount of dispensing done in a day, week, month, or year; (2) the nature of the medicine dispensed; (3) the hour when dispensed (this is a check upon delivery should the messenger have put off time); and (4) the names of the dispenser and checker. We note the width of each column:—

Date	Name	Address	Medicine	Number	Hour	Dispensed by	Checked by
Feb. 5	Betsy Jones	Gladstone Place	3-oz. mixture	42,356	10.50	A. B.	C. D.
$\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$1\frac{3}{4}$ in.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ in.	1 in.	1 in.	$\frac{3}{4}$ in.	$\frac{3}{4}$ in.	$\frac{3}{4}$ in.

#### Essential Oil in Pills.

SIR,—In reply to "Tragacanth," I should recommend the following method of dispensing the pills:—Rub down the ol. cajeput with 24 grains p. saponis and add the ext. colocynth. co. in powder. Rub down in a separate mortar the sodæ hypophos. and transfer it, together with the ext. hyos. (desiccated) to the other mortar. Work up and add p. glycyrrh. 24 grs. The ext. lactucæ, being ordered as excipient, is not required, and may therefore be omitted. [With this opinion we cannot agree.—ED.]

OMEGA. (196/23.)

#### A Muddy Mixture.

SIR,—The following mixture deposits a dirty-looking sediment. I presume that it is tannin in the wine or colchicum thrown out by pot. bicarb. Can it be avoided?

Potassii iodid.	..	..	..	gr. 160
Magnes. sulphat.	..	..	..	3iv.
Potassæ bicarb.	..	..	..	3iij.
Vin. colchici	..	..	..	3ij.
Aq. chlorof. ad	..	..	..	3viij.

M.

Yours faithfully,

VRIDIS. (198/3.)

[Bicarbonate of potash forms with sulphate of magnesia a precipitate of magnesium carbonate, and this carries down with it some of the colouring-matter of the colchicum wine.]

#### Veterinary Dispensing.

SIR,—Will you permit me to express my sincere thanks to your courteous correspondents for their valuable hints on the dispensing of ext. cannabis Indicus; more than one gentleman has sent me by post a small quantity of the mixture as well as the most concise directions. As these preparations were sent me without any interested motive or view to effect sales, I cannot but believe that cutting prices and grocer-druggists have not yet spoiled that *esprit de corps* which was so conspicuous among pharmacists during the eight or nine years I spent behind the counter in the palmy days of full prices.

There is one gentleman, however, who fails to see that in applying to you for information I am paying the greatest respect to pharmacy. Whom should we ask for a solution of dispensing difficulties if not those whose special business it is to dispense? Mr. James Phillips's acrimony appears to me quite uncalled for, and were he practically acquainted with veterinary matters he would know that modern veterinary surgeons undergo a course of study and examination tests not inferior to their confrères of the medical profession. The time has gone by for sneering at a profession which contains as many good men in proportion to its members as any older corporation. If medical men and veterinary surgeons were as good chemists and dispensers as those who make pharmacy their life-work, there would scarcely be any necessity for pharmacists except as mere drudges—to do the doctors' dirty work. May I here protest against the censorious spirit sometimes displayed behind the counter by persons who are asked by ignorant clients as to the merits of prescriptions brought to them, and how the slightest inaccuracy from a pharmaceutical point of view is pounced upon as a reason for condemning the prescriber? As an

instance of what I mean let me say that in cases of acute gastritis in man as well as dogs, it is a very common thing to order acid. hydrocyanic. and pot. bicarb. The youthful chemist sneers at the incompatibility of the agents, but the prescriber knows from experience that the therapeutic effect is the same whether or no a limited amount of cyanide of potassium is thus given.

I suspect that the bone of contention has been earthed up, and Mr. Phillips's real antipathy is based on the assumption that chemists ought to do all the dispensing. Would that it were so! I wonder what country practitioner, either of human or animal medicine, would not gladly come in from a cold, long journey and write a prescription by the fireside if he could obtain a living by doing so!

We of the present generation are not responsible for the selling portion of the business. It is a sad inheritance, as much as gout or turbercle, and it will take generations to wipe it out. Let us, then, cultivate the admirable spirit shown by the rest of your correspondents, remembering that we are natural allies and not "opposing trades," as Mr. Phillips seems to think.

Yours faithfully,

HAROLD LEENEY, M.R.C.V.S.

#### Borax Emulsion and Substitution.

SIR,—I find the formula given by "Baron" makes a good and (so far) stable emulsion.

In your issue of November 12 your correspondent, Mr. A. Laitran, objects to my "Substitution" advice. In deference to him I refrain from suggesting any alteration in "Baron's" formula. But, when one is asked how a thing can be done so as to carry out the intention of the prescriber, and at the same time to satisfy and please the client, it seems a piece of affectation to take one's stand on the pedestal of "No deviation," and please neither party. In the two cases mentioned to dispense as written is impossible; and it is neither a case of "unsatisfactory appearance" nor of "elegant pharmacy." Mr. Laitran's advice amounts to this—how *not* to do it. I would not substitute one thing for another for appearance or elegance merely; but I should exercise my wits to find a method of doing what both doctor and patient expect of me.

HEDER.

#### LEGAL QUERIES.

70/196. *Dispenser*.—An unregistered person may sell anything not named in the schedule of the Pharmacy Act. Neither cupri sulph., plumbi acet., nor liq. antim. chlor. is so named. He may put up and sell any *bona-fide* patent medicine, whether it contain poison or not.

29/187. *Turaxacum*.—The death of the person to whom an apprentice is bound gives the apprentice the right to claim that the indentures shall be cancelled, and in certain circumstances he can claim the repayment of a portion of the premium. Generally, however, it is to his advantage to be transferred with the business to the successor.

23/197. *Justice*.—Unless we are fully informed of all the circumstances, and see all the correspondence, it is impossible for us to judge whether you have any claim against anybody. But you certainly have not unless you can show that you have been wilfully deceived.

52/200. *C. I. P.*.—You should send your labels to Somerset House for an authoritative determination whether they render the preparations liable. We should say the corn paint probably would be, but not the bronchial lozenges. We do not see that the latter title can infringe any one's rights.

198/3. *Viridis*.—The Inland Revenue Department allow stamped packets of medicines to be broken and the contents sold in small quantities without restamping, providing that in selling out the goods are not repacked. The seller must be prepared to prove that the original package was stamped.



22/199. *Beacon*.—Soap liniment, compound camphor liniment, aconite liniment, and belladonna liniment are the only liniments which you may legally make with methylated spirit, except with the special permission of the Board of Inland Revenue.

19/201. *D. J. L.*—We should consider your coca wine, labelled as you show, is certainly liable to medicine stamp duty. But to get an authoritative decision you should inquire of the Board of Inland Revenue. Your name in the possessive case is one of the grounds of liability; but the preparation seems to be also liable as it is recommended as a remedy for certain complaints. If the wine is such that in the opinion of the Board it can only be sold by persons licensed to sell wines, you, being licensed, may only sell it in reputed pint or quart bottles. You would be wise in the case of your morphia customer to consult with the physician who gave the prescription, if you can. If not, with some of the relatives of your customer. You are certainly taking a risk in continuing to supply the medicine.

9/202. *Ajax*.—Your label does not appear to us to render the preparation liable to medicine-stamp duty.

#### MISCELLANEOUS INQUIRIES.

For Limes and Glycerine I have seen recipes without number in your journal, but none so good as this, which I got from a representative of one of the leading wholesale drug houses some eight years ago, when I was in London. Here it is:—

Ol. amygd. dulc. (vel ol. nucis)	..	..	3xx.
Ol. ricini Ital.	..	..	3iv.
Aq. rose	..	..	3vj.
Liq. ammon. B.P.	..	..	3j.

Mix liq. ammon. and water; add gradually, with shaking, to the oils previously mixed. Scent with essence of bergamot, 5ij., or according to common sense (if any present). It will not separate for years if carefully mixed.

194/11. *L.* puts the following query:—"What is the cause of Ess. Menth. Pip. made from Hotchkiss oil occasionally becoming discoloured? I notice that the essence, when prepared of P.B. strength, from this oil, after standing some days goes bright green; this has been noticed on several occasions. Some lots of the oil make a satisfactory article." [We have noticed peppermint water, as well as the essence, become red.]

Old Solutions of Morphia.—*Nemo* (197/18) writes:—"In a solution of acetate of morphia kept for a length of time it is possible that it should decompose into apomorphia or acetate of apomorphia? A hypodermic solution of acetate of morphia has caused vomiting, and the question arises, would that be owing to any such decomposition as I mention above?" [Dr. Hager once asserted that a solution of morphine hydrochlorate which he had kept for eleven months contained at the end of that period apomorphine, for he found that it produced nausea. The matter was taken up by Mr. D. B. Dott, and he proved that in a solution of morphine hydrochlorate the morphia is not changed to apomorphine on keeping. It is not likely that the change would occur in a solution of the acetate, but it is probable that the vomiting is caused by decomposition products of the acetic acid.—ED.]

198/17. *J. B.*—*Lotio Plumbi Opiat.* is generally made with acetate of lead (4 grains to the oz.), but your formula is quite suitable. Christison's formula is:—

Opium	..	..	..	32 grs.
Acetate of lead	..	..	..	32 "
Water	..	..	..	8 oz.

Infuse the opium in 4 oz. of water, and dissolve the lead acetate in the remainder. Mix and filter.

For self-raising flour see last volume, page 672.

193/33. *F. Johnston*.—*Egg-powder*.—Oswego corn-flour, 1 lb.; bicarbonate of soda (dry), 3 oz.; tartaric acid (dry), 2½ oz.; turmeric, q.s.

200/5. *A Chester Subscriber*.—*Indian Cerate*:—

White wax	..	..	..	8 oz.
Olive oil	..	..	..	40 "

Melt and add 1 drachm of camphor; after this has dissolved add the mixture gradually to

Sugar of lead	..	..	2 drachms
Precipitated chalk	..	..	8 oz.

previously made into a paste with water.

200/4. *A. D.*—*Liquor Pepsin Co. c. Bismutho*.—We have previously published the following formula, which is satisfactory:—

Pepsin	..	..	..	3iij.
Ac. hydrochlor. dil.	..	..	..	3iij.
Ac. hydrocyan. dil.	..	..	..	3ss.
Ext. opii liquid.	..	..	..	3j.
Spt. chloroformi	..	..	..	3j.
Tinct. cardam. co.	..	..	..	3ij.
Liquor bismuthi	..	..	..	3x.
Liquor cocci	..	..	..	q.s.
Aque	..	..	..	q.s.

Digest the pepsin with the hydrochloric acid and 4 oz. of the water for two days, then filter, and wash the filter with water to 5 oz.; add this to the liquor bismuthi, with sufficient cochineal to give the desired colour; then add the rest of the ingredients, making up to a pint with water. Allow to stand for a day or two before filtering.

191/15. *Meta*.—The filtration of lime-juice is greatly assisted if a small percentage of washed kaolin be previously added to it, and the whole well agitated for some time; but the best plan is to use finings or filter through felt bags. The juice should be perfectly clear before it is made into cordial. The 15 per cent. of alcohol required by the Board of Trade greatly assists in precipitating mucilaginous matter.

53/200. *Nux Vomica*.—We do not think a diary ought to be used as a substitute for a cash-book. You can get the latter at any stationer's.

198/43. *Edina* sends a sample of a Mouth-wash, "half a teaspoonful of which in a wineglassful of water is used to refresh the mouth," &c. It is a pale crimson and transparent solution with the odour of oil of wintergreen. On examination we find that its composition is fairly represented by the following formula:—

Oil of wintergreen	..	..	..	3j.
" peppermint	..	..	..	1xxv.
Roseaniline hydrochlorate (or magenta)	..	..	..	gr. ss.
Water	..	..	..	3ss.
Glycerine	..	..	..	3iij.
Rectified spirit to	..	..	..	Qj.

Dissolve the oils in the spirit, and the roseaniline in the water; mix the latter solution with the glycerine, and pour it into the perfumed spirit. Mix.

197/56. *L. A. Smith* sends a sample of a Specific for Rheumatism, and like ills, "to which many marvellous cures are attributed—some, indeed, with one application." The specific is an oleaceous fluid of a pale straw colour, and slightly terebinthinate odour. A similar preparation to it is afforded by the following formula:—

Oil of anise	..	..	..	3ij.
" turpentine	..	..	..	3iij.
" camphor (natural)	..	..	..	3ij.
Olive oil to	..	..	..	3x.

Mix in the order given.

The statements regarding the miraculous influences of such preparations as this must always be taken *cum grano salis*. The heating nature of the mixture no doubt affords temporary relief, which is enhanced by faith—and there is a great deal in the rubbing.



## Books.

191/48. *Pil. Calcii Sulph.*—Glasgow University Medical Preliminary.—English—Grammar, Derivative Dictionary, History 1603-1688, Composition, Geography of British Isles; Latin—Virgil, *Æneid* Bk. III. (1s.); Caesar, *de Bello Gallico* Bk. V. (1s.); Grammar (2s. 6d.), Exercises. Arithmetic—Dalton (2s. 6d.). Mathematics—Euclid, I.-III.; Algebra. Mechanics—Bottomley's "Dynamics" (1s. 6d.); Blaikie's "Dynamics" (3s. 6d.). There are other seven subjects, from which you have to select two, but you should get through the above-named five before you trouble with them. You can get the books from any bookseller.

197/55. *Chilblain's* contribution to this department is a very small sample of *Chilblain Liniment* "never yet known to fail," and sold in bottles at 2s. 6d. and 4s. 6d. each. *Chilblain* is doubtful about its composition, but of "one thing he is assured—it is a capital remedy." It is a difficult matter to determine with certainty all the ingredients in such compounds as this; but we have undoubted evidence of the presence of aconite, potassium iodide, camphor, oil of amber, glycerine, and methylated spirit. We suggest the following formula:—

Potassium iodide..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Aconite root (bruised) ..	..	..	..	..	3iiss.
Camphor ..	..	..	..	..	3j.
Glycerine ..	..	..	..	..	3i.
Oil of amber ..	..	..	..	..	3ij.
Methylated spirit ..	..	..	..	..	3xvj.

Mix, and macerate for seven days, then filter, making up to a pint with spirit, and colour with burnt sugar.

The directions are to "paint the parts night and morning."

197/57. *E. P.*, a correspondent whose sample was a fortnight ago lost in transmission, now sends a duplicate, which turns out to be fine crystals of Selenite (calcium sulphate,  $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). This substance belongs to the monoclinic system of crystals, and generally occurs in various forms of the oblique prism. Two of our correspondent's crystals are six-sided prisms, one of these with the terminal angles so acute that the crystal is almost diamond-shaped. The third crystal is a twin crystal, composed of one large six-sided prism with a much smaller one inserted in its side. *E. P.* states that these crystals are found in a pond near where he lives. We judge from that that the water of the pond is possessed of excessive permanent hardness. Selenite is being continually formed in gypsum hills and in old mines, and is found in other situations, such as in London blue clay, at Shotover Hill near Oxford, elsewhere in this country, and in numerous localities on the Continent. It was used, before glass was fashionable, for window panes (hence its names *glacies marie* and *lapis specularis*). It is now used as a polariscopic accessory for the microscope. For this purpose it is cut into thin plates. Some crystals of selenite are very transparent, and all are so soft that they can be cut with a knife into mica-like scales.

198/49. *Doubtful*.—Carbolic acid has, like other volatile antiseptics, been vaunted for Consumption, its chief advocates being Drs. Coghill, Hunter, Mackenzie, and R. Munro. We have seen cases in which there was undoubted benefit from wearing habitually a Mackenzie's respirator, the sponge of which was saturated with a solution of carbolic acid. It has also been recommended to be given in the form of steam inhalations (3j. of the acid to Oj. of hot water), and patients have even been advised to live in a room the atmosphere of which was more or less charged with the vapour of the acid. In a longer or shorter time patients who adopt either mode of treatment feel the constitutional effects of the acid, and for that reason other less harmful antiseptics are generally used. None, however, has, so far, succeeded in curing consumption. Boric acid is useful in any stage of Gonorrhœa; indeed, a forty-eight hours course of treatment with the acid under proper antiseptic conditions is said to arrest quite recent attacks. It is not so successful in chronic cases.

*Sal Mineralis*.—We have had several replies to a query regarding this preparation, amongst them being one by *Deconiensis* (199/8), who says it "is composed of sulphate of soda, magnesia, and potash, with bicarbonate of potash and chloride of sodium, the active ingredients of Carlsbad, Vichy, and Friedrichshall waters." "It is put up in boxes containing twelve doses," says another correspondent (*S. W. S.*, 197/5), "by a London firm, who have registered the title."

*Podoph.* (197/21) and *J. H. D.* (198/40) both ask for a formula for *Liquor Podophyllini* which will not separate on mixing with water. The best formula for this is the one which we have given repeatedly, in which the S.V.R. of the official formula is replaced by aromatic spirit of ammonia. If the odour of this alkali is objected to, make the liquor from the following formula:—

Podophyllum resin ..	..	..	..	gr. viij.
Carbonate of potash ..	..	..	..	gr. v.
Water ..	..	..	..	3ij.
Rectified spirit ..	..	..	..	3vj.

Dissolve the carbonate in the water and add the solution to the spirit previously mixed with the podophyllum. Let stand for a day or two, and filter.

198/31. *P. V.*—White dextrin is merely the ordinary variety highly dried and powdered. This treatment appears to alter its solubility somewhat. We have not found starch in powdered dextrin. The yellow variety is preferable for making mucilage.

197/30. *Fucus* wishes a formula for black dye for a tennis-court. Why not use lamp-black or soot, in the same way as whiting is used?

193/4. *A. P.*—*Anæsthetic Ether* differs from pure ether in so far as it may be made from methylated spirit, and rectification is carried so far as to remove all traces of alcohol and water. *Lucigen Light*.—This is the invention of Mr. Hannay, the well-known chemist, Mr. Lyle participating in the invention with him. The light is produced by burning creasote oil, tar oil, crude petroleum, or other heavy hydrocarbons, by means of compressed air, in a special form of lamp termed the "Lucigen." The principle of the lamp is essentially the same as that of an ordinary spray-producer. There is a tank of oil into which a tube dips; this tube is a double one—viz., a small one within a larger. Connected with it, outside the tank, is a tube from a chamber of compressed air. This air, rushing into the tube, carries up the oil, and at the orifice breaks it up into a very fine spray. This spray on ignition affords a powerful, luminous flame, which is said not to cast shadows like the electric light. It is only suitable for outdoor illumination or for large engineering sheds. The London office of the company is at 114 Cannon Street, E.C.

*Shaver* (196/60) and *Bouquet* (200/6).—*Shaving Cream* (for smearing on the skin):—

Soft soap, B.P. ..	..	..	..	3 oz.
Curd soap ..	..	..	..	2 "
Simple ointment ..	..	..	..	½ "
Carbonate of potash ..	..	..	..	2 drachms
Oil of rose ..	..	..	..	15 drops
Oil of lavender ..	..	..	..	5 "
Rectified spirit ..	..	..	..	1 oz.
Water ..	..	..	..	12 "

Dissolve the soaps in 10 oz. of water by the aid of heat. Melt the ointment, and while liquid and hot mix with it the carbonate of potash dissolved in the remainder of the water; then add the soap solution gradually to this and with constant stirring in a large mortar. When nearly cold add the essential oils dissolved in the spirit.

198/67. *Fishy*.—The odour of fish oils is improved somewhat by treating them with a half per cent. of sulphuric acid, and washing with water, but the fishy odour cannot be entirely removed.



199/66. *H. C. H. O.*—The prescription which you sent was for *Mistura Quiniae* (Aberdeen Pharmacopœia). Of this the formula is:—

Quiniae sulphatis .. ..	gr. xij.
Acidi sulphurici diluti .. ..	℥ xxx.
Tincture cocci .. ..	℥ xxx.
Aque ad .. ..	℥vj.

Misce.

200/10. *Kola*.—*Kola Nuts* are used in the rough (that is "skinned") as a masticatory, in the same way as coca leaves. They possess the physiological property of enabling the person eating them to undergo prolonged exertion and fatigue, owing probably to the caffeine which they contain, which also prevents waste of tissue to a limited degree. Consequently the drug is useful to those who are in "training," but not more so than coca leaves, which are much pleasanter to chew. *Kola*, like everything else, is not beneficial when taken in excess. For the price per ounce please refer to your wholesale house.

196/25. *Alpha*.—The Pharmacy Act does not extend to the Channel Islands. The proceedings of the London Chemists' Assistants' Association may be obtained from the secretary, 103 Great Russell Street, W.C., price 2s. 6d. We have given information regarding dulcified spirits of salt quite recently in our correspondence columns.

200/65. *Alcohol* (Jersey) sends a sample of unfermented wine, asking us to tell him if it is free from alcohol. Such requests as this entail analyses which are of no interest to our readers generally, and for that reason we must decline to comply with them. Samples which are likely to afford formulae or other useful information we do examine. *Alcohol* should distil 5 oz. of his wine, collecting the first 2 oz. of distillate and submit it to Lieben's iodoform test, the particulars of which were given in our correspondence columns recently.

*Physic*.—We presume that what you send is a *Diuretic Ball*, for it consists principally of gum thus, a fixed oil, linseed meal, nitre, and red bole.

200/51. *A Six Weeks' Subscriber*.—(1) *Emulsion of Cod-liver Oil with Hypophosphites*.—Try Mr. Gerrard's formula, given on page 646 of our last issue. To each ounce add 12 grains of calcium hypophosphite, 8 grains of sodium hypophosphite, and 2 grains of potassium hypophosphite. Dissolve these salts in the water. (2) *Subscriber* also writes as follows:—"The formula given below makes a nice Cough Elixir, much liked by my clients, but it has the disadvantage of throwing down a dense precipitate, which 'shakes up' with some difficulty. How can I avert this?"—

Tr. camph. co. sinc opio. .. ..	3j.
Glycerin. .. ..	℥ss.
Ext. glycyrrh liq. .. ..	3j.
Liq. ammon. acct. conc. .. ..	3j.
Chlorodyni .. ..	3iij.
Æther. chlor. .. ..	3j.
Vin. ipecac. .. ..	3iij.
Aq. ad .. ..	℥iv.

Misce.

The precipitate is glycyrrhizin, and is caused by the combined action of the glycerine and mindererus spirit. The extract of liquorice should be omitted. (3) The powders are not too strong.

200/57.—*W. J.* (Kennington).—We gave suggestions for *Aniline Marking Ink* on pages 543 and 730 of our last volume. The following formula is for a preparation in two bottles:—Solution No. 1: Chloride of copper (crystals), 8·52; sodium chloride, 10·65; ammonium chloride, 5·35; water, 60. Solution No. 2: Aniline hydrochlorate, 20; distilled water, 30; mucilage, 20; glycerine, 10. Four parts of No. 2 are to be mixed with 1 part of No. 1 immediately before writing, as the mixture does not keep.

200/60. *E. L.*—There is no "best" book of synonyms that we know of. If you refer to our volume for 1885, you will find very full lists in the earlier numbers.

199/15. *Hair Dye*.—Permanganate of potassium and nitrate of silver would not prove a successful light brown dye for the whiskers. Try the solution of pyrogallic acid and sulphite of soda in water, for which we have previously given the formula.

*Heder*.—The essence appears to resemble tincture of aloes very closely, and we find aloes to be the principal constituent. It is apparently a German preparation, the title on the bottle being "Die Keisserliche priveleicirt Altonatischen Kronessents." Can anyone inform *Heder* where this *Crown Essence* is made, and for what it is used? It is brought to this country by trading vessels.

*Ebor* sends a sample of a *Purifying Syrup* made by a Barnsley firm, and extensively sold by grocers, co-operative societies, &c. It seems to be used for all the ills that children are heir to. It does not contain morphia or any other alkaloid, therefore no laudanum. The chief constituents are treacle, extract of liquorice, and oils of anise and peppermint.

200/49. *Lewis Ough*.—It does not matter whether you prepare the B.P. mercurial ointments (except the nitrate of mercury ointment) with a steel or a bone spatula. Mr. J. F. Burnett conclusively proved in a paper published in this journal (1884, page 18) that the alleged darkening of these ointments owing to the use of a steel knife is fallacious. The darkening, when it does take place, is due to the reduction of the mercury. Refer to the paper for full particulars.

201/17. *Dick Deadeye*.—*Sachet Powder for Almanacks*.—Bran, 8 oz.; oil of ylang-ylang, 20 drops; otto of rose, 5 drops. Mix well. Good perfume can also be made with the triple French essences and bran or orris powder. These are not so lasting as the above, but they serve the purpose well.

201/18. *Cocaine*.—The dressing is suitable for indiarubber aprons.

201/2. *H. W. G. M.*—*Spirit Gum for Moustaches*.—A solution of common resin, 4 parts, and castor oil, 1 part, in 12 parts of methylated spirit. Perfume with citronella or any other essential oil.

200/37. *Atropa*.—We do not know of any such substance as you refer to. A pair of indiarubber gloves is what you want. We shall give our attention to the other matter.

#### Information Wanted.

[Replies to the following requests are solicited by correspondents of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.]

184/35. Composition of liquid used by chiropodists to prevent pain in extracting corns.

194/68. Anti-fouling composition for ships' bottoms. What is it?

197/60. Meal powder used for making fireworks. Composition, or where obtainable.

194/42. London amalgam stopping; where obtainable.

194/18. Formula for rosemary and cantharidin hair cream made with almond oil, and which will not separate. Can anyone oblige *Yorks*?

199/66. Makers of ext. filicis maris and ol. sabinæ capsules.

202/44. Makers of cedar-wood boxes, such as used for enemas.